

THE INDEPENDENT

Thursday 9 October 1997

45p (IR50p) No 3,423

INSIDE TODAY

THE EYE

He's hip, he's cool, he's a cult. The new Rolf Harris



TODAY'S NEWS

Tories turn on MPs

A Conservative version of the peasants' revolt convulsed the party conference in Blackpool yesterday. Representatives attacked the disloyal behaviour of grandees and MPs - described by Lord Archer as forming "a circular firing squad" - and promised their new leader William Hague that he would not have to endure what John Major had gone through. A rule change for future leadership contests suggested by Lord Archer, giving grassroots Tories half the votes would, if implemented, make Mr Hague more secure and might end the Tory habit of disposing of their leaders by parliamentary putsch. Page 6

Hunger in Paradise

People in the remote and beautiful highlands of Papua New Guinea are dying of hunger, as the long dry spell caused by El Nino, the weather-changing phenomenon, destroys the crops. Richard Lloyd Parry, the first Western reporter to gain access to an area where tragedy looms, files his exclusive report on page 5.

The supercashcard

The Royal Bank of Scotland's 2.5 million customers yesterday became the only group in the UK with free access to any of the country's 22,000-plus cash machines. Britain is the only country in the world to have a cash machine network which is not available to anyone with a cashpoint card. Page 22

Market crash warning

The stockmarket took fright yesterday when Alan Greenspan, the influential chairman of the US Federal Reserve, delivered a shock warning that America's economic boom was unsustainable. With the tenth anniversary of the last crash approaching, his remarks were seen as a deliberate effort to puncture Wall Street's share bubble. Shares duly dived. Page 22

Decaf coffee beans

First genetically cloned sheep. Now caffeine-free coffee beans. It may sound like a fantasy but ForBio, a small Australian biotechnology company, has found a way of growing coffee beans without the caffeine and improving the flavour of the world's favourite beverage to boot. Not surprisingly the world's biggest coffee producers who spend billions on chemically removing caffeine are sniffing around. Page 24

SEEN & HEARD

Times may be changing, but the Wee Frees are not about to give up their hard line on dancing. Grooving on the dance floor is as sinful as ever in the eyes of the Free Presbyterian Church of Scotland. And, lest anyone forget, the current issue of its magazine includes a reprinted article on the subject from the 1920s. People who attend all sorts of dances are labelled "the frivolous, the empty-headed, the vain, the silly, the dissipated and the dissolute", and the act of dancing is derided as being "for mere sensual enjoyment". The re-iteration of policy was prompted by rumours that some members of the church have taken to the dance floor recently at weddings.

A new ruling from the Lord Chief Justice: Let's talk about dope



Joint effort: The painter Caroline Coon, founder of Release, the drugs advice charity, who is supporting the campaign to legalise marijuana

Photograph: David Rose

The country's most senior judge called for an open debate on decriminalising the use of cannabis. Our Legal Affairs Editor says Lord Bingham has reignited a controversial debate that the Government wishes would go away.

Yesterday's statement by the Lord Chief Justice gave a significant boost to the growing campaign for the decriminalisation of soft drugs. "It is a subject that deserves, in my judgment, detached, objective, independent consideration," he said.

The campaign to ditch a law which many has been long discredited, has been led by the *Independent on Sunday* and a growing number of celebrities and public figures in the face of government hostility.

High-profile figures, such as Sir Paul McCartney, have declared their backing for the decriminalisation of cannabis. But the Lord Chief Justice's support for a detailed examination of the subject is the first contribution to the current debate from a senior member of the legal establishment.

Others backing the campaign range right across public life, and include the authors Martin Amis and Fay Weldon, Alan Yentob, director of television at the BBC, playwright Harold Pinter, Sir Kit McMahon, former chairman of the Midland Bank, actor Richard Wilson, the Body Shop owner Anita Roddick and Richard Branson.

Lord Bingham emphasised that he was not expressing a concluded view on decriminalisation, but welcomed the recent decision by the Independent Police Foundation to mount an inquiry into the entire issue.

"It may very well be that the result of such consideration would be that to tinker with the current prohibition would be madness, but that doesn't seem to me an argument against considering the sug-

gestion," he said during his second set-piece news conference, which is now to become an annual autumn event.

If an objective, independent study showed that existing law was 100 per cent correct, that would reassure everybody, he said.

His remarks came less than a week after Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, ruled out any moves towards decriminalisation of cannabis in his speech to the Labour Party conference, and a week ahead of the appointment of the new "drugs tsar" who will co-ordinate a Whitehall-wide offensive to combat drug abuse.

Tony Blair and his Government have fought shy of the subject ever since Clare Short, now Secretary of State for International Development, dared to speculate openly about legalising

leading to high rates of absenteeism, aggravation of mental illness and more people switching to hard drugs.

Jane Betts, the mother of Leah Betts, who died after taking ecstasy at her 18th birthday party, said: "I view with worry proposals like this because very often the outcome is predetermined."

The Conservative home affairs spokesman, Sir Brian Mawhinney, said: "This party does not believe that drugs should be decriminalised."

Brian Mackenzie, president of the Police Superintendents' Association, said he opposed any move towards decriminalisation. "Any relaxation in the attitude towards prosecuting people for the possession of drugs would be a wrong step. It would send totally the wrong signal."

"By all means have a debate, but I think the vast majority of the public agrees with us and is against legalisation or decriminalisation. To do so would simply increase drugs usage and that would be a mad move."

A spokesman for the Association of Chief Police Officers said: "More research is always welcome in any area, but we support the Government's policy and oppose the concept of decriminalisation."

Lord Bingham also used the press conference to welcome the Government's decision to make the European Convention on Human Rights a part of British law while warning of the consequences for the media. "I do think this will lead inevitably to the development in this country of a law of privacy," he said. But he emphasised that the convention also protected the press's right to free speech.

"What is going to have to be confronted is the demarcation boundary between free speech and privacy," he said. In deciding which side to come down on, the courts would apply a test of public interest, he said.

The reporting of wrongdoing by an individual in public office would be considered to be in the public interest and justify intrusion into their privacy but the same would not apply to matters affecting their private lives which did not affect their office, he said.

PATRICIA WYNN DAVIES

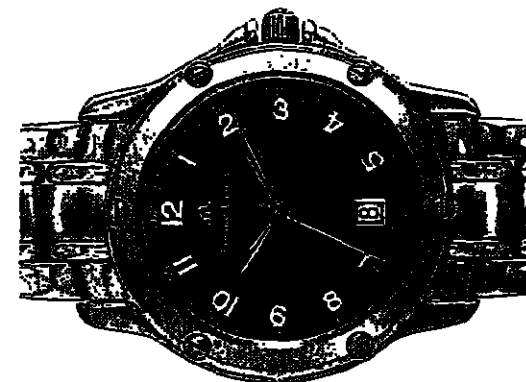
cannabis while Labour was in opposition. Only the Liberal Democrats support a full-scale inquiry by a Royal Commission; the study commissioned by the Police Foundation, which receives financial backing from the Prince of Wales' Trust, has already been dubbed the "unofficial" Royal Commission.

In the last fortnight, however, two Labour backbenchers, Paul Flynn, MP for Newport West and Gordon Prentice, MP for Pendle, have put their heads above the parapet and joined the campaign for decriminalisation launched by the *Independent on Sunday* a fortnight ago.

Mike Goodman, of Release, the drugs advice charity, welcomed the Lord Chief Justice's remarks. "I think it is a refreshingly candid contribution to one of the most important debates at the moment," he said.

But Mr Straw has branded the decriminalisation lobby "irresponsible", warning that consumption would go up,

Maurice Lacroix
Switzerland



TIAGO

From £450 - £850

- Precious Metal/Stainless Steel
- Sapphire Crystal Glass
- 100 Metres Water Resistance
- Concealed Clasp
- Screw-In Crown

The Maurice Lacroix Swiss watch collection can be found in selected branches of the Goldsmiths Group, the largest network of Authorised Agents in the country. The Goldsmiths Group is one of the country's leading retailers of fine jewellery and prestigious watches with more than 120 branches nationwide.

GOLD SMITHS

WALKER & HALL
THE MARK OF A FINE JEWELLER

For further information and details of your nearest agent telephone FREE on 0800 Goldsmiths (0800 465376).



WEATHER The Eye, page 10
TELEVISION The Eye, page 12
CROSSWORDS Page 32 and
the Eye, page 9

Web address: <http://www.independent.co.uk>

COLUMN ONE

Thieves fly away home with £30,000 pigeon

To you it may be only a pigeon. But to Keith Turner it was a "golden egg", a bird that made his dreams come true, a champion among champions - not to mention the fact that it was worth £30,000.

It was Red Daniel, an eight-year-old racing pigeon and the object of desire for a gang of thieves who breached Mr Turner's security cordon to snatch the bird and £70,000 worth of other top breeding pigeons.

The gang struck in driving rain in the early hours of Tuesday. Its members - likely to be other racing pigeon fanciers - had probably been to Red Daniels' loft in Fingringhoe, Essex, before because they knew all about the light sensors which would have alerted Mr Turner in his bed, and they managed to avoid them.

"There was just one blind spot, but they seemed to know all about it," said Mr Turner. "Now they've taken the backbone of my stock - a life's work."

The thieves took Red Daniel and 15 pairs of breeding pigeons, leaving behind only one of Red's offspring, probably by accident. It was no accident, however, that they targeted the loft in the first place because Red Daniel is a former British champion racing pigeon. And that makes him proportionately as valuable in his sport as a thoroughbred racehorse stud is in his.

Racing pigeons is a lucrative sport, with purses in many races reaching thousands of pounds. The world's biggest prize is for a million-dollar race in Africa where birds are taken as chicks and raised in one huge loft until ready to race; the first back to the loft makes its owner very wealthy.

"Red Daniel was like a golden egg to me," said Mr Turner, 51, a former railway worker. "Whenever I needed anything, I'd advertise some of his chicks in the paper and within one or two phone calls they'd be gone. They fetched £500 each."

"I feel absolutely devastated about the loft. A bird like Red Daniel is one in 10,000. I doubt I'll ever be able to raise one like him again."

The thieves will have stolen Mr Turner's birds to enrich their own stock. But, like the crooks who stole the racehorse Shergar, they won't be able to sell Red Daniel on the open market and they will not be able to cash in on his breeding potential; they can hardly tell a potential buyer that a stolen bird, however good, sired a chick.

Eventually, however, if they win enough races with Red Daniels' offspring, those birds will attain a breeding value of their own.

Nevertheless, they will have a long way to go before attaining the sort of superstar status reserved for Invincible Spirit, a bird bought for £110,000 after defeating 27,000 other birds to win the 719 mile Barcelona International classic race in 1992. He was snapped up by the Massarella family for their £1m pigeon breeding centre, Louella Pigeon World in Loughborough, Leicestershire. Invincible Spirit lives in a secret loft, hidden somewhere on the estates owned by the Massarella family in Leicestershire, Yorkshire and Scotland. Security men are on 24-hour duty with at least one member of the Massarella family always on instant call.

One of the perks of the pigeon's job is that he never has to race again - for to lose him would be disastrous. Instead, eight carefully selected hens, champions or the daughters of champions, are taken to him each year for breeding purposes. If everything goes well, and it usually does, every hatched bird has the potential to become a golden pigeon in its own right. Each of Invincible Spirit's 400 expected offspring fetch £5,000 from breeders.

None of which provides any consolation for Mr Turner. His flock wasn't insured - no company will take a chance on racing-pigeon losses - but he always has a faint hope that Red Daniel might escape. For if he does, he will surely find his way home.

— Steve Beggan

CONTENTS

Famine	5	Features	18
Tory Conference	6-7	Obituaries	19
Environment news	9	Comment	20-21
Ethnicity	11	Business	22-27
Crime	12	Sport	28-32
Censorship	15	Weather	The Eye, 10
Education news	16	TV & Radio	The Eye, 11, 12
Architecture	17	Crossword	The Eye 9

PEOPLE



Cheers: Television executive Greg Dyke, before his link with the NHS Photograph: Reuters

TV chief charts new course in the health service

The man who brought Roland Rat to our television screens has been put in charge of reworking the Patient's Charter in time for the 50th anniversary of the NHS next year.

Greg Dyke, chairman and chief executive of Pearson TV, will work with a panel of advisors from the health professions, patients' organisations, the NHS and with consumer groups to draw up the new standards.

The new NHS charter will emphasise the responsibilities of patients as well as their rights, will keep standards for waiting times and include measurable standards of care.

"The Patient's Charter at the moment needs to be simplified and made clearer to consumers," said Mr Dyke. "It is the mood of the times that rights and obligations are included in the new charter."

He said that he was a "great fan" of the NHS. "I am a consumer, not a health expert which is, I think, why I have been asked to take this on." He said that although he belonged to a private health

scheme through his work he did use NHS services. But Frank Dobson, Secretary of State for Health, warned yesterday that patients must recognise that they have obligations as well as rights in the National Health Service, and did not rule out sanctions against patients who failed to cancel appointments, abused nurses or turned up drunk in Accident and Emergency Departments.

"We all have responsibilities as well as rights," said Mr Dobson. "If you have an appointment at outpatients and you simply don't turn up it is not just harmful for you, a nuisance for staff, but also another patient who might have been seen won't have been seen," he said. "People do things which are positively harmful. We are saying you should not turn up drunk at A&E, you should not duff up nurses."

He said that some people did support sanctions against patients that behaved in this way although others felt it might "do more harm than good".

— Glenda Cooper

Best kicks off in Italian wine business

After years spent indulging in the finest tipplery on the market, George Best, the legendary footballer, has gone into the wine-selling business.

The former Manchester United striker (right) has become a sleeping partner in a West London venture importing wines and delicacies from Italy.

His close friend Carlo Cataldi, who owns a restaurant in Fulham, south-west London, will look after the day-to-day running of the business while Best remains a non-executive director free to appreciate the company's liquid assets. Mr Cataldi and his wife guru Luigi Bolzon are confident that the involvement of such a well-known name will guarantee that the business is a success.

Before hanging up his boots in exchange for less energetic pur-



suits, Best notched up 115 goals in 290 league FA Cup and European matches.

Mr Cataldi said: "George ... has been coming to the restaurant for years. I got to know and befriend him and now we have decided to work together."

But Best himself is unlikely to be a regular sight behind the shop counter. "I've got enough to do anyway, what with charity matches, my writing for *Punch*, commentary for Sky TV and various other things," he said.

— Amanda Kelly

Prize poet takes the rap

Ted Hughes, Britain's most prestigious poet, could find himself competing against rap artists at next year's poetry "Oscars" following the success of Jamie McKendrick, a rival poet, who won £10,000 for his collection *The Marble Fly* at last night's Forward poetry awards.

William Sieghart, poetry crusader and founder of the Forward Prize, told *The Independent* last night: "Rap music is one of the most influential forms of the last 20 years". McKendrick, who was born in Liverpool in 1955, won the Eric Gregory Award in 1984 and was described as a one of the "New Generation Poets" in the same year.

For the fourth year running, the corporate world will today embrace National Poetry Day, another part of Sieghart's poetic vision.

Comment, page 21

UPDATE

HEALTH

'Instant death' warning on solvents

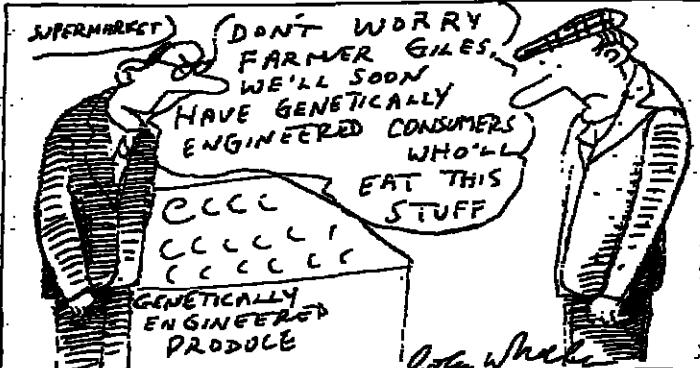
A new, hard-hitting health warning is to be printed on glue and lighter fuel products following new evidence of widespread solvent abuse among teenagers. A report published yesterday claims the problem is being overshadowed by public concern over drug abuse although solvent abuse kills more people than heroin and ecstasy combined. Latest figures show that more than one person a week is killed as a result of solvent abuse.

The research, carried out by the solvent industry, estimates around 25,000 people are abusing solvents every year, but researchers admit that figure is "probably conservative". Manufacturers have responded by announcing the warning to be printed on products - "Solvent abuse can kill instantly".

The labels will be put on items such as aerosols including hairspray, lighter fluid, correction fluid and petrol. Ann Robinson, director general of the British Retail Consortium, said: "The BRC takes the issue of solvent abuse very seriously."

FOOD

Farmers may fail in genetic market



Farmers could find themselves without a market if they start sowing genetically modified crops, campaigners warn today. A report published by Friends of the Earth claims public opposition to genetically engineered food is growing across Europe amid fears over the possible health and environmental consequences of "tampering" with nature.

Campaigners will be lobbying farmers at the National Farmers Union today in a bid to urge them not to rush ahead with the introduction of GM crops. Report author Pete Riley said the issue had to be debated now, before farmers were given permission to sow GM crops in the UK. "Only one or two things need to go wrong to cause real environmental and health problems. The protest today is part of a fortnight of global action by campaigners. The European Union is considering whether to force food manufacturers to label all products containing GMOs."

FOOTBALL

Sorry, ref ... the earth wobbled

England's chances in the crucial World Cup qualifier in Rome could be affected by earth tremors, a seismologist said yesterday.

Two full-scale earthquakes that struck central Italy yesterday were strong enough to be felt more than 60 miles away in Rome where Saturday's match takes place. "If there was a crucial penalty and an earthquake struck the penalty-taker might miss, but it would have to be at that exact second," said Glen Ford, a British Geological Survey seismologist. Mr Ford, who is Scottish, added: "I think if England don't win, they'd probably be scraping the barrel to blame it on an earthquake."

TOURIST RATES

Australia (dollars)	2.16	Italy (lira)	2,728.00
Austria (schillings)	19.45	Japan (yen)	195.95
Belgium (francs)	57.20	Malta (lira)	0.61
Canada (\$)	2.17	Netherlands (guilders)	3.12
Cyprus (pounds)	0.82	Norway (kroner)	11.22
Denmark (kroner)	10.60	Portugal (escudos)	280.54
France (francs)	9.30	Spain (pesetas)	232.96
Germany (marks)	2.78	Sweden (kroner)	11.99
Greece (drachme)	440.02	Switzerland (francs)	2.29
Hong Kong (\$)	12.15	Turkey (lira)	271,382.00
Ireland (punts)	1.08	USA (\$)	1.58

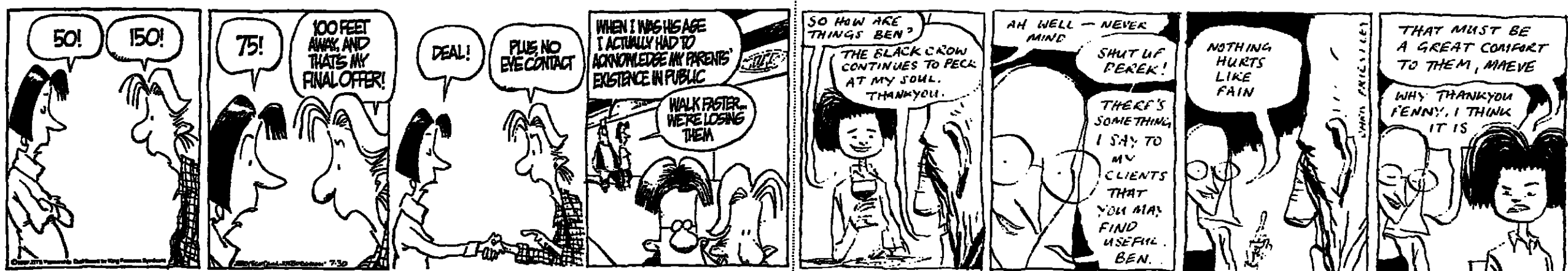
Source: Thomas Cook; rates for indication purposes only

ZITS

by Jerry Scott & Jim Borgman

7.30 FOR 8

by Chris Priestley



Pick up speed with a free processor upgrade.



DELL LATITUDE™ LM 1133ST

- INTEL PENTIUM® PROCESSOR WITH MMX™ TECHNOLOGY 133MHz
- 16MB RAM UPGRADEABLE TO 72MB
- 256KB LEVEL II CACHE
- 20X CD-ROM DRIVE
- 1.6GB HARD DRIVE
- INTEGRATED 16-BIT SOUND BLASTER PRO-COMPATIBLE SOUND WITH INTERNAL SPEAKERS AND MICROPHONE
- 12.1" SVGA (800X600) TFT COLOUR DISPLAY
- INFRARED COMMUNICATIONS PORT
- 2 PCMCIA SLOTS
- LITHIUM ION "INTELLIGENT" BATTERY
- MICROSOFT® OFFICE 97 SMALL BUSINESS EDITION
- CARRY CASE

£1,799 (£2,149.08)

(INC. DELIVERY & VAT)



The Dell Latitude™ LM 1133ST big screen notebook - now with free processor upgrade to an Intel Pentium® processor with MMX™ technology 133MHz. What's more, this superfast system also comes complete with productivity software pack as standard. Now that's flat out value from the world's largest direct PC manufacturer*. Get online to order, or get on the phone to Dell - on the double. *Source: IDC

PRODUCTIVITY SOFTWARE PACK

HIGH QUALITY MICROSOFT SOFTWARE: MS ENCARTA 97 (US), MS ENCARTA™ WORLD ATLAS 97 (US), MS GOLF (US) MS MONEY 97 (UK)

GET ONLINE TO THE NUMBER ONE
01344 724695

BETWEEN 9AM & 8PM WEEKDAYS, 10AM TO 6PM SAT

To order online 24 hours: www.dell.com/uk



Dell and the Dell logo and Latitude are registered trademarks of Dell Computer Corporation. The prices, logos and other information are subject to change without notice. © 1997 Dell Computer Corporation. All rights reserved. Microsoft, Office, Encarta, Money, Golf, and the Intel Inside Pentium logo are trademarks of Intel Corporation or its subsidiaries in the United States and other countries. Other brands and product names are the property of their respective owners. Dell Computer Corporation is not responsible for typographical or graphical errors that appear in this document. *Source: IDC. Dell Computer Corporation is not responsible for typographical or graphical errors that appear in this document.

هكذا من الأصل

Brighter than 10 million suns

The star at the centre of this picture is brighter than 10 million suns, and so big that if it were at the centre of our solar system it would swallow the Earth. Yet it has taken the power of the Hubble Space Telescope to produce this detailed image of the "Pistol Star", which lies about 25,000 light-years away from Earth, towards the centre of our galaxy, the Milky Way.

Astronomers reckon that it is only between one and three million years old, and that when it originally formed it may have had a mass up to 200 times greater than our Sun's - before it threw off much of that in a series of violent eruptions.

Those eruptions formed the pink "clouds" which appear to surround the star - a stellar nebula which the HST had to peer through in order to determine the detail of the picture; the Pistol star is not visible to the eye, but lies beyond the constellation Sagittarius, in the dust clouds of the Milky Way. The HST detected it using the in-

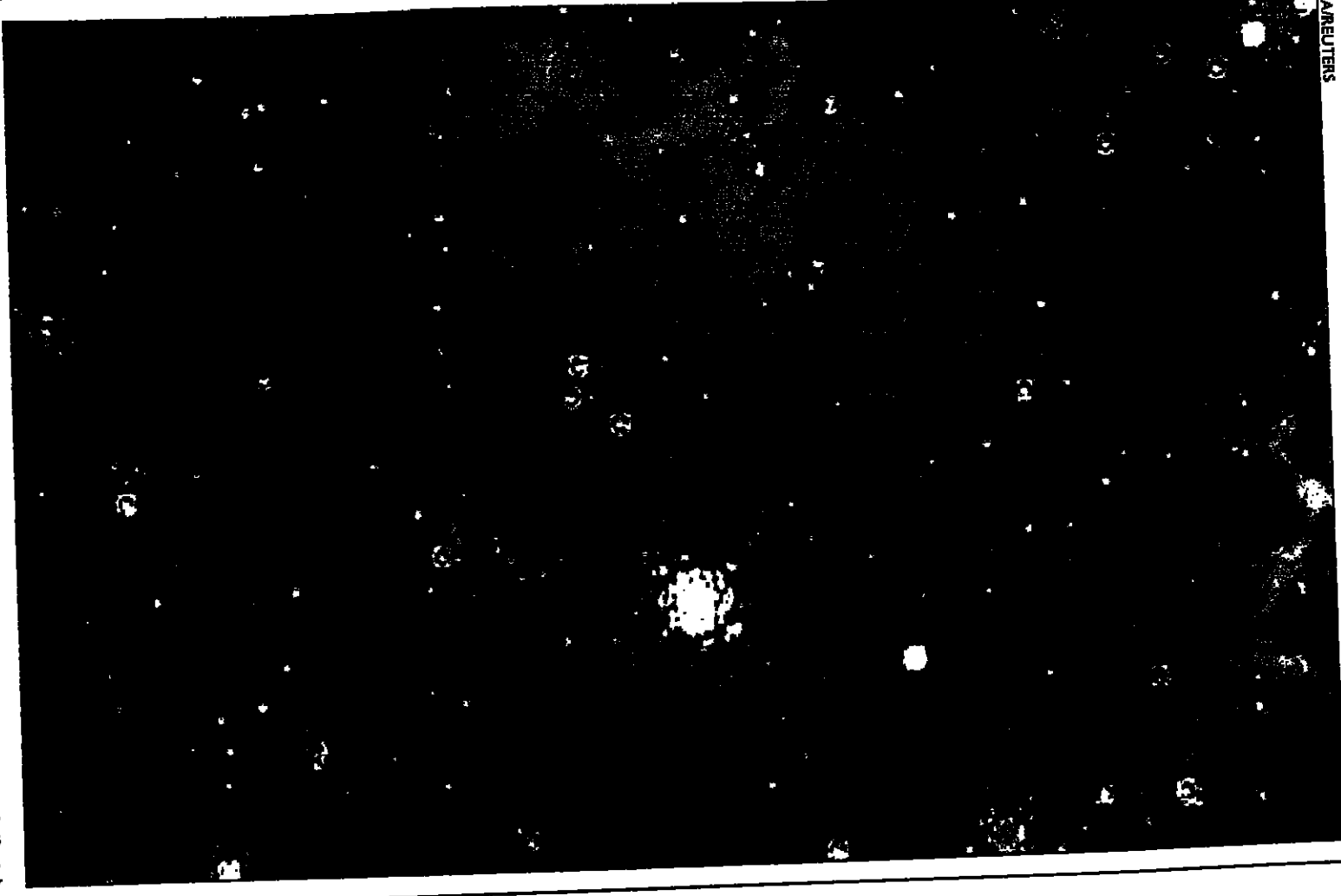
fra-red rays that penetrate the dust and reach Earth.

The star is so energetic that it gives off as much energy in six seconds as our Sun does in a whole year. The nebula is so big - four light-years across - that it would nearly span the distance from the Sun to Alpha Centauri, the nearest star to Earth's solar system.

"This star may have been more massive than any other star, and now it is without question still among the most massive - even at the low end of our estimates," says Don Figer of the University of California at Los Angeles. "Its formation and life stages will provide important tests for new theories about star birth and evolution."

A few million years is a remarkably early age for a star to be so energetic. Its size also indicates that in a few million years it will certainly explode as a supernova, throwing out its contents in a massive explosion.

— Charles Arthur



The Queen says the world is changing too fast. But wasn't it ever thus?

Anyone who has had to ask a five-year-old how to program the video, or stared in horror at a computer screen, will empathise. But was the Queen right when she said society was moving too fast for "older people"? Jojo Moyes hears that her grandmother was probably saying the same thing.

The Queen's admission yesterday that even she felt bewildered by the rapid rate of technological change brought a clamour of agreement from those still stuck on the hard shoulder of the information superhighway.

In a speech to Pakistan's Parliament, the Queen, 71, said: "I sometimes sense that the world is changing almost too fast for its inhabitants, at least for us older ones."

The veteran writer and broadcaster Ludovic Kennedy, 77, was among those who

agreed. "What she has said is absolutely right. For old dogs like us, new tricks are simply unacceptable," he said. "The world is changing so fast we just can't keep pace with it... I can't even cope with a word processor, never mind the Internet. Everything is getting more and more complicated."

According to the Age Concern spokesman Margaret McLellan, many elderly people felt the same way. "Feeling too old to catch up with the modern world can begin when people are as early as 40 or 50, and it is a feeling which gets worse as people get older," she said. "But there should be a choice - some people see new developments as a challenge and try very hard to bridge the age gap."

According to Dr Jon Turney, lecturer in science communication at University College London, much of the elderly today has to do with the biotechnological changes that have sped through since the 1980s. "I suspect the feeling is keener and more affecting now than it has been in the past. If you went back 100 years there was disquiet about

changing belief systems, fallout from the discovery of deep time and Darwinian theory. But science and technology were seen as the arbiters of progress. Everyone was optimistic," Dr Turney said.

"Now the changes come so thick and fast that people are as much bewildered as anything. There is a sense that there is more science, more technology rushing along doing threatening things. Developments in bio-sciences are seen as much of a threat as a promise. Traditional categories get broken down... and there is the question of what reproductive technology is doing to the family. People find this very disquieting."

But according to William Brock, Professor of the History of Science at Leicester University, one could have heard the same sounds of disquiet 150 years ago - when people adapted to the advent of "high speed" railways, and subsequently electricity, and telephones and their lives changed beyond recognition.

"There were huge changes taking place to people's lives. With railways [in the 1840s] you



Pace of change: Getting to grips with three-dimensional web pages in 1997 and an 1896 Peugeot, preceded by a traffic-calming man bearing a red flag
Photographs: Paul Roberts/NTI and Hulton Deutsch



Sainsbury's pick of fresh vegetables, fresh offers and fresh ideas.



Closed Cup Mushrooms 50% extra free 750g for the price of 500g £1.69

Cheesy Mushroom Kebabs

Mash together 175g brie and finely diced small green pepper with salt and pepper to taste.

Use to sandwich 12 pairs of closed cup mushrooms together. Thread three pairs onto 4 skewers with a cherry tomato between each pair.

Melt 1 tablespoon of honey and 25g butter and brush over the kebabs. Place under a moderate grill for 5 minutes. Serve immediately with glaze and melted cheese spooned over the top.

At Sainsbury's, you'll also find Asparagus bundles, Chillies and Pumpkins on offer, so you won't have to dig too far into your pocket.

And if you like the recipe above you'll find many other ideas in the special vegetable supplement free with October's Sainsbury's The Magazine. Eating up your greens will never be the same again.

Sainsbury's
FRESH FOOD, FRESH IDEAS.

OFFER ENDS 18 OCTOBER 1997. ALSO AVAILABLE AT SAINSBURY'S SAVACENTRES. PRODUCTS SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY. SOME LINES AVAILABLE AT LARGER STORES ONLY. WIN 10,000 REWARD POINTS AT WWW.SAINSBURYS.CO.UK



Buy 1 Asparagus bundle 250g £1.99 Get 50 extra Reward Points



Small/Medium Pumpkins 49p 29p per lb



Buy 1 pack of Habanero Chillies/ Scotch Bonnet Peppers/Bird Eye Chillies Get 25 extra Reward Points

While for those who can, it will soon be possible to e-mail your fridge

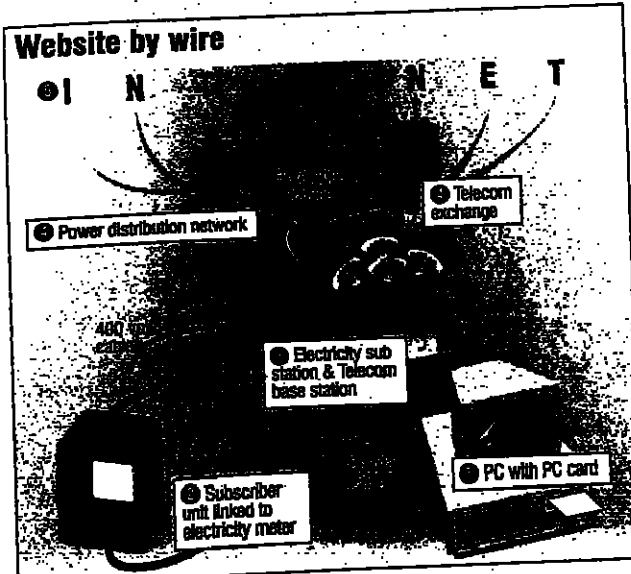
A high-speed, low-cost connection to the Internet via your electricity meter? Charles Arthur, Science Editor, looks at a breakthrough by an electricity generator and a telecommunications company.

The day is fast approaching when you can e-mail your fridge to check what's inside, or log on remotely to your video recorder to ensure it's going to tape your favourite afternoon programme.

The medium that will allow this totally connected world is not futuristic fibre-optic cable: it's the humble three-phase electricity cable. In time, the whole of your home could work like the sophisticated local area networks (LANs) used by large companies - but linked by its three-pin plugs instead of computer cables.

The first fruits of this revolution appeared yesterday, when the electricity company Norweb and the telecoms company Nortel announced that they have worked out how to send Internet data over the mains power supply to the home at up to 1 megabit per second - or 20 times faster than the fastest existing telephone modem.

The system receives radio-frequency signals sent over the power lines from the local sub-



station, and converts them back at the customer's electricity meter into packets of computer data. All the customer needs is a small box at the meter, and a computer cable and card for their PC.

"I've been in telecoms research and development for 30 years, and this has been a Holy Grail," said Ian Vance, head of R+D for Nortel. "With this, the Net becomes everything that has been promised: you can download video and CDs, play high-speed games, hold videoconferences."

Though the initial use, in trials in 2,000 homes in Norweb's heartland in the north-west of England next spring, will simply be to provide a high-speed Internet link for home computers, John Laycock, a senior researcher at Nortel, said:

"Having an Internet address for every plug in the home would be the Utopia."

That would allow the ultimate connected home, in which you could e-mail fridge@home, and study the picture relayed by the videocamera to see if you need milk; or turn the lights off and burglar alarm on, all from a remote location, using your own password. First, though, researchers must do more work to see how wiring systems in homes affect data transmission.

Initially the two companies will aim to offer a flat-rate, permanent connection to the Internet for Norweb customers who want it. They have tested it and found it does not interfere with any domestic appliances such as stereos or radios.

The system might seem like

the death knell for telecoms companies, since everyone who wants to get on the Net will have electricity. But even Norweb disagrees. "I think the demand for the Internet is such that this will find its place alongside other delivery systems," said Peter Dudley, a vice-president.

People are definitely keen to get onto the global network - something which advertisers have been quick to recognise. A survey released yesterday showed that advertisers spent \$214.4 million (£134m) for "banners" on Internet sites from April to June. The total for the first half of the year was \$344m - a 322 per cent increase from the first half of 1996.

The total figures, collated by Coopers & Lybrand, are modest compared to the billions spent on other forms of advertising.

But it's growth that matters. In the second quarter of 1996, advertisers spent just \$52m to buy space on popular sites on the Internet. Such explosive growth could signal a revolution in the way advertisers reach us - and, perhaps, the ways we try to avoid them.

Many advertisers still use the "banner" approach, buying space at the top of the most popular Web sites - notably those used to search for material on the Net. The survey found that consumer advertising accounted for 30 per cent of the spend, with financial services taking 22 per cent, computers 21 per cent, and new media and telecoms 7 per cent each.

Egon Ronay forces guide publishers to close

The food critic Egon Ronay has forced the publishers of his world-famous restaurant guides to close down after a High Court judge was told their methods "stink".

Mr Ronay claimed that Leading Guides International failed to pay promptly the inspectors who tour Britain filing reports for the guides.

He said the company owed him more than £37,000 and almost £200,000 to 20 creditors.

The company had claimed that it was already in voluntary liquidation and would be able to pay off its debts - some of which were owed to the food inspectors - within a year.

But James Munby QC, for

Mr Ronay, said: "This is a matter which stinks and is a case with a crying need for a compulsory liquidation so that a wholly independent liquidator can investigate matters."

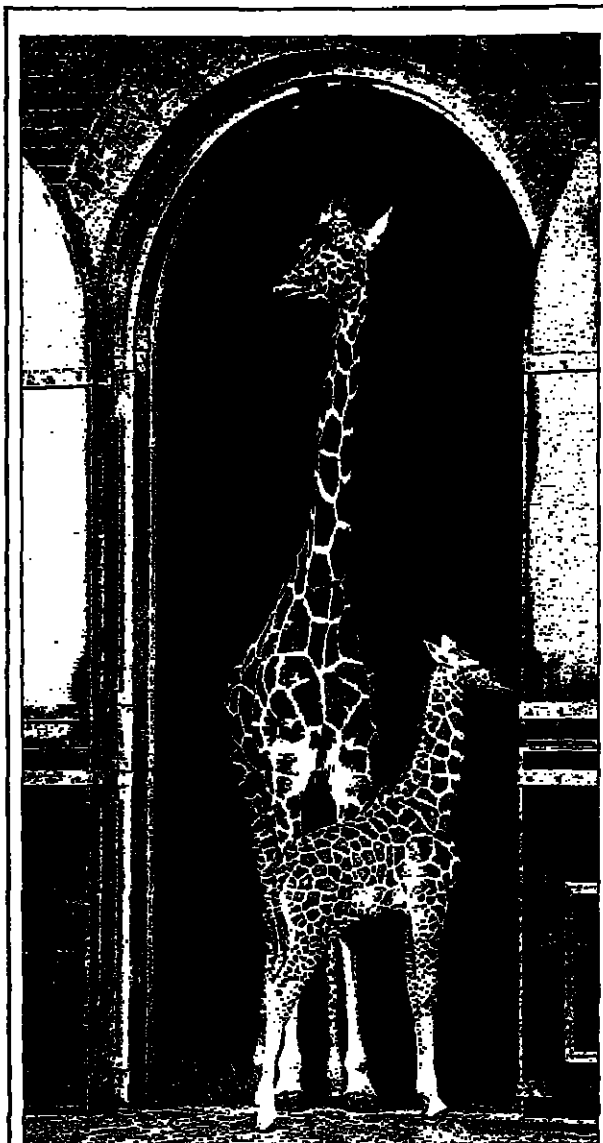
He said "sinister connotations" could be read into the company changing its name after it was served with the first winding-up petition and again after the current one.

Mr Munby called for an independent investigation, claiming that the company had been involved in unlawful trading while insolvent, had used its complex group structure to the detriment of creditors, and that the £400,000 offer was put up to avoid independent scrutiny.

Granting a compulsory winding-up order, Mr Justice Rafter said: "The evidence as a whole points to there being very grave suspicions of the propriety of this company." The order was opposed by Richbell, an associated company of Leading Guides, which claimed it was owed £2m.

Mr Ronay founded the guides in 1956 and sold them in 1985 to the Automobile Association, which in turn sold them to Leading Guides, now known as Global Infocom Ltd. Mr Ronay, who was awarded punitive costs, said he would make an announcement today about the future of the books.

— Kate Watson-Smyth



Room to grow: One of London Zoo's two giraffe calves with his mother, Dawn, yesterday. A naming competition is being launched. Photograph: Nicola Kurtz

Diana police search for 112,000 Fiat Unos

Police investigating the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, are trying to trace 112,000 Fiat Unos - every car of that type ever registered in the greater Paris area.

Investigators believe that a Fiat Uno may unwittingly have caused the accident on 31 August which killed Diana, her companion Dodi Fayed, and the driver, Henri Paul.

The possibility that a second car was involved has never been completely excluded and is now being taken more and more seriously by the examining judge and detectives leading the inquiry.

Fragments of yellow plastic from the tail light of a Fiat Uno were found near the crash scene, alongside glass from the

front headlight of the Mercedes which was carrying Diana's party. In the last few days, a police laboratory has identified a streak of white paint found on the right wing of the Mercedes as possibly coming from a Fiat Uno (although it could also have come from several other makes of car).

The evidence is sufficiently strong for Judge Hervé Stéphan to order police to locate every Fiat Uno registered in the Ile de France in the 11 years in which the car was manufactured, from 1983 to 1994.

Investigators believe that the Mercedes, travelling at up to 100mph to escape pursuing press photographers, may have clipped the slower-moving Fiat just before it entered an under-

pass beneath the Place de l'Alma in central Paris.

This may explain why the Mercedes spun out of control and struck a pillar in the central reservation before rebounding against the opposite wall.

The investigators are said to have rejected all possibility that the low-powered Fiat was connected with the press pack or impeded the Mercedes deliberately (as suggested by some of the wilder conspiracy theories still circulating about the accident).

What remains unclear is how the small car - if it existed - avoided the wildly spinning Mercedes and why the driver fled the scene without stopping.

— John Lichfield

Heroin gangs blamed for eight murders

At least eight murders in London during the past three years are believed to be linked to the thriving Turkish-controlled heroin trade, one of the country's most senior police officers said yesterday.

Up to 80 per cent of the heroin entering Britain is controlled by Turkish gangs based in the capital and the South-east, according to the National Criminal Intelligence Service

(NCIS). About 20 criminal families and gangs are understood to be responsible for controlling the drugs which are being smuggled into the UK in record amounts.

The new director of NCIS, John Abbot, disclosed that his organisation was becoming increasingly concerned about the heroin trade and Turkish organised crime. He also disclosed that the majority of the

150 criminal gangs that NCIS targets were not run by traditional gangster families, in the tradition of the Krays. He added that the criminal groupings can range from three to 200 members.

After London, the north-west of England, particularly Merseyside and Manchester, had the highest concentration of organised criminals.

— Jason Bennett

Schoolgirl joins board of Mensa

A 17-year-old schoolgirl has become the youngest Mensa member to be elected to its ruling body.

Hayley Abdullah, an A-level pupil who joined the elite club when she was just 10, was picked for the Mensa board in an election by 2,500 of society's members.

Hayley, from Peterborough,

Cambridgeshire, has applied to Cambridge University to study law and counts learning Chinese among her hobbies.

She said: "I felt that there needed to be more things done for junior members of Mensa, and that I had an ideal opportunity to ensure they were fairly represented."

"I hope for Mensa to grow

bigger and better, and to develop a stronger image with a lot less stereotyping."

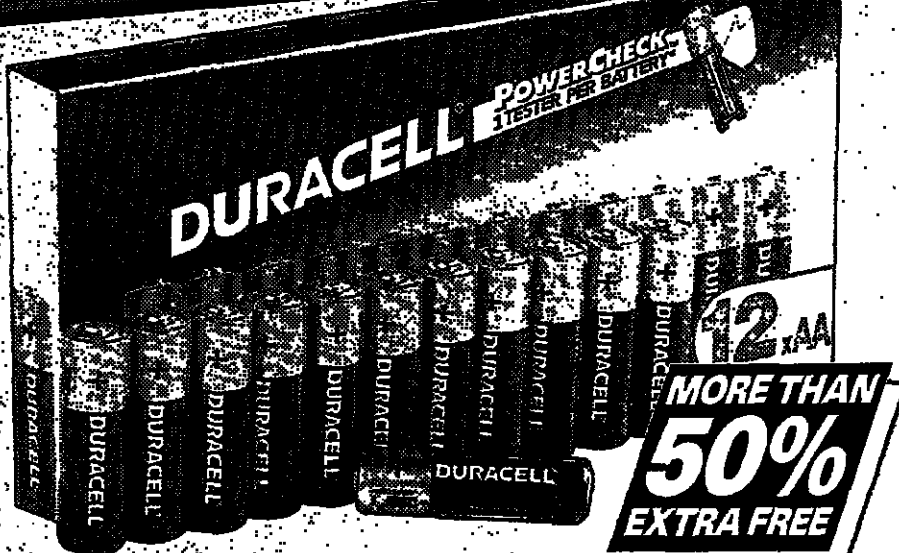
Only 2 per cent of applicants satisfy Mensa's requirement of a minimum IQ of 148.

One of Hayley's first duties when the board meets later this month will be to elect a new chairman to replace Sir Clive Sinclair.

Dixons

SAVE UP TO 50%

BRITAIN'S BEST RANGE OF ACCESSORIES



Duracell MN1500
'AA' SIZE BATTERIES
12-PACK
Full alkaline power.
Was £7.49.

Dixons Deal
£6.49

Also available:
DURACELL MN1500 'C' SIZE
DURACELL MN1500 'D' SIZE
Were £7.49 EACH

6 pack £6.49



Varta
ALKALINE 'AA' SIZE BATTERIES
10-PACK
Full alkaline power.
Total Separate Selling Price £10.25, Was £4.99.

Dixons Deal
£3.99

PRICE - WE CAN'T BE BEATEN
Every week we check the prices of hundreds of products in the national press to make sure that Dixons Price Check prices can't be beaten. If you find the same product cheaper locally, we'll be pleased to refund the difference. Just reply within 7 days of purchase. The product must be new, complete and suitable for immediate delivery. Mail order prices excluded.

Dixons

There's a Great Deal going on

Web site: www.dixons.co.uk

sale

EXTRA 10% OFF ALL HEADPHONES AND MINI-SPEAKERS THIS WEEKEND

CORDLESS HEADPHONES

MATSUI JR100

INFRA-RED CORDLESS HEADPHONES

Up to 7 metre range.

Was £49.99. In-store Price £27.99.

£25.19

EXCLUSIVE TO DSG RETAIL LTD.

PHILIPS

INFRA-RED CORDLESS HEADPHONES

Rechargeable.

Volume control on headset.

Was £39.99. In-store Price £24.99.

£44.99

MINI-SPEAKER

JIVE

ACTIVE MINI-SPEAKERS

Ideal for travel or holidays.

Amplified sound.

13 watt output power.

In-store Price £14.99.

£13.49

REMOTE CONTROLS

ONE FOR ALL

BIG EASY 4

REMOTE CONTROL

Easy to use big buttons. Key magic allows you to add additional features.

£19.99

UNIVERSAL

REMOTE CONTROL

Pre-programmed for easy set-up.

Was £24.99.

£22.99

PHILIPS

3 IN 1

REMOTE CONTROL

Operates most brands of TV, video and satellite systems.

Teletext with Fasttext.

£22.99

Longer term for dangerous prisoner

Britain's most dangerous prisoner - who has bent cell doors with his bare hands - had seven years tagged on to his jail sentence yesterday after admitting taking three fellow inmates hostage in a bid to escape.

Michael Peterson, who changed his name to Charles Bronson, told prison officers that he had had "a bad day" after bundling the captives into his cell and threatening to snap their necks and cut their throats unless he was freed.

Bronson, 44, has spent 21 of the past 25 years in solitary confinement because of dangerous behavioural problems, a court at the Old Bailey was told.

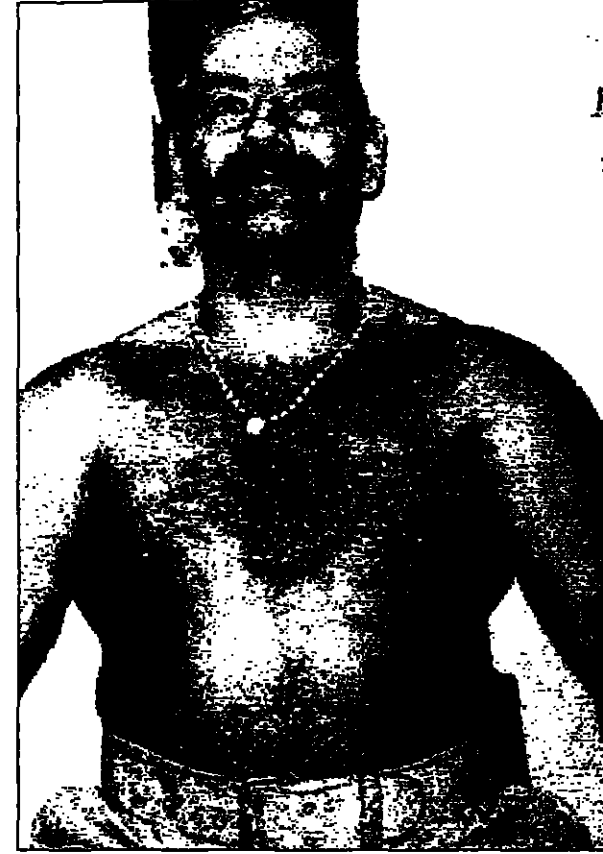
On 27 September last year, he exploded into a rage shortly after breakfast at Belmarsh Prison, south-east London, grabbing two Iraqi prisoners and his only "friend" before tying them up and demanding a helicopter and a sub-machine gun.

Jeremy Donne, for the prosecution, said Bronson first said he intended flying to Cuba in the helicopter before changing his plan and asking to be taken to Heathrow, from where a jet was supposed to fly him to Libya.

If his demands were not met within an hour, he told negotiators: "You will have to bring in four bodyguards and four body bags. I have a blade and will cut them up. None of us are going to leave, even if it means me getting one in the head. I am number one hostage-taker."

Eventually, he surrendered without further incident.

Asked how he pleaded to



Charles Bronson: Britain's most disruptive prisoner

charges of threatening to kill the hostages, he replied: "Guilty - as guilty as OJ Simpson" and "Guilty - as guilty as Adolf Hitler."

The Iraqi prisoners are accused of hijacking a Sudan Airways jet to London last year.

Mr Donne said Bronson was considered by the Prison Service to be the most disruptive inmate in the country.

He was transferred to Belmarsh in 1996 where governors and prison staff put a great deal of effort into his social development. But, he added, Bronson "had a clear problem in getting on with other prisoners."

"He is a large, strong man who keeps himself extremely fit and has been known to bend cell doors with his bare

hands," Mr Donne told the court.

"Because of his strength and unpredictable behaviour and attitude to other prisoners, he has spent 21 of his last 25 years in segregated units - effectively in solitary confinement."

Isabella Forshall, for the defence, said Bronson had told her: "It was a bad day. I hope it will never happen again."

She said his management in prison had sometimes been exacerbated by conditions and prolonged isolation which left him phobic with other people. He was so isolated, he once asked for a blow-up doll - not for sexual reasons, but for someone to talk to. It was not granted.

— Steve Boggan

Now you don't have to turn a blind eye to those difficult marks that conventional cleaners shy away from. **BAR KEEPERS FRIEND** gets to grips with even the most stubborn stains.

Kitchen worktops, white sinks, tiles, stainless steel, saucepans, even bone china - just one application of **BAR KEEPERS FRIEND** effectively removes stains, without scratching.

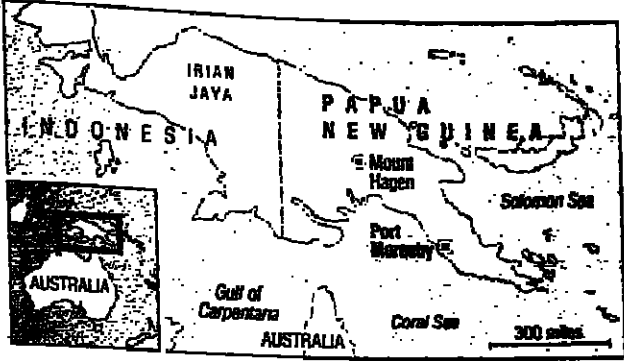
LOOK OUT FOR BAR KEEPERS FRIEND

AT A LOCAL BRANCH OF TESCO, JOHN LEWIS PARTNERSHIP, LAKELAND LIMITED, BOOTS, WAITROSE OR INDEPENDENT HARDWARE STORES.



هكذا من الأصل

El Nino wreaks havoc in the Gardens of Plenty



El Nino, the climatic phenomenon that is changing the weather all over the world, is killing people in Papua New Guinea. Drought has destroyed the crops, and many more deaths may be ahead. Richard Lloyd Parry was the first Western reporter to gain access to this remote, beautiful but tragic area.

It was the sixth funeral in the village of Sakalem since the drought began, said the clan leader, and the biggest of them all - more than 100 people had gathered from all over the district, dressed in cheap colourful clothes and the distinctive knitted hats of the New Guinea Highlands.

The first one to perish had been a 15-year-old boy; then there was an old man and an old woman. But the two who died after that were grown men, followed by a baby whose mother couldn't produce enough milk. The most recent victim was Kaup Kauga, a chief of the Aika clan and a man popular throughout the district, although he died in much the same way as all of them.

Shortly after the bitter frost, which froze soil already singed from months of drought, Kaup Kauga ate a sweet potato which had been lying in the ground. The tuber was bad; the chief, who was only in his forties, became ill. There was nothing good to feed him, and he grew worse. By the time they took

him down to the little clinic in the village of Tambul, he was dying. "His stomach was all shrunk, because he had eaten so little," said Nison Kupe, who works for the Tambul district office. "If they had brought him in earlier, maybe they could have helped him."

They took the chief to the nearest doctor in the town of Mount Hagen, a bone-rattling two-hour journey in a four-wheel drive, through knee-deep streams and along rocky unsealed roads. A week ago he died there, and yesterday they buried him in Sakalem.

There wasn't much visible grief, although there isn't much energy for grief in the Highlands these days. Four more people are dying of food poisoning, according to the new clan chieftain; he was quite confident of more funerals.

Many of the children were listless; nearly all of them have diarrhoea and recently specks of blood have been appearing in it. At the Tambul clinic, the nurses have treated five or six times as many malnutrition cases than usual, and last month 41 children under five were treated for pneumonia. There has been one death from suspected typhus and most alarming of all, emergency first aid cases are up - people who have stabbed or beaten one another up in fights over food.

As many as 600 have died in neighbouring West Papua, part of Indonesia. So far as anyone knows, nobody in Papua New Guinea itself has literally died of hunger. It is too early to call this a famine, although time may turn it into one. But the situation in Tambul is a reminder



Drought: A woman weeping by her dried-up garden in PNG's Highlands, where people's means of survival has been destroyed

Photograph: Palani Mohan

that you do not need outright starvation to kill people, that droughts and crop failures have many different ways of stealing lives, and that disasters of this kind rarely happen evenly.

In many parts of Papua New Guinea, life is continuing almost as normal, despite the hardship caused by the long dry spell. But in Tambul, an area of the Western Highlands with a population of some 50,000, people are already dying as a result of the food shortages.

No one on the ground is in any doubt that the next two weeks will be critical: either merciful weather and effective

relief will bring the situation under control; or Tambul faces a disaster in which the individual fate of Chief Kaup will soon become a distant memory.

If the Highlands of Papua New Guinea are remembered at all by the world at large it is, ironically, as Gardens of Plenty. Of all the world's tribal people, those who live here remained undisturbed by modernity the longest - until 1933, decades after the coastal areas were settled by Dutch, British and eventually German colonists. The tribes who lived here used stone tools, wore ceremonial tattoos and face paint and fought one another in vicious feuds which could carry on for generations. They had not discovered glass, or even the wheel. But they had perfected a beautiful form of garden agriculture - mounds of tilled earth containing beans, sugar cane, yams and sweet potatoes, carefully drained and fenced off from domesticated hogs.

Today these gardens are a waste land. Throughout South and East Asia, as a result of the atmospheric phenomenon known as El Nino, the usual cycles of heavy tropical rain have been delayed. In Tambul, local people say that there has been no heavy rain since January. Fleshy produce like tomatoes

quickly dried up, and cabbages are withered and leathery, leaving only the sweet potatoes.

But a second disaster struck in August - hard frost, which killed even the potato plants. In the last week there have been rain showers, but this has made things worse. The streams are no longer dried out, but the moisture has speeded up the decomposition of the tubers in the earth and stimulated pests without quenching the soil.

"Even if rain fell tomorrow, the situation would still be serious," said Merly Kuruma, director of the government agricultural agency in Tambul. "These people need food to eat,

but they also need things to plant for next year. But here things grow slowly and it will be months before their new crops are ready, so they need to be fed throughout that period as well."

People walking home from the funeral said that they have not eaten since Monday. The school is open only in the mornings, and even then fewer than half its pupils are turning up. Children can be seen sitting in the fields hunting for insects to eat, and in other areas, people are eating ferns, as well as possums and rats. It is a sign of how serious things have become that many families have started selling their

only form of capital - their pigs - to raise cash to go shopping in the inflated markets.

The concept of "living memory" is a limited one in these parts, where few people live past 60. But the only year comparable to this was in 1942, nine years after the Highlands emerged from the Stone Age. "That was when I was a small boy," said one old man yesterday, "and there was a second frost, even worse than the first. It drove all the people out, it was two years before they came back. We expect that big frost any day, but this time I will not escape. I just want to die and be buried here on my land."

only form of capital - their pigs - to raise cash to go shopping in the inflated markets.

The concept of "living memory" is a limited one in these parts, where few people live past 60. But the only year comparable to this was in 1942, nine years after the Highlands emerged from the Stone Age. "That was when I was a small boy," said one old man yesterday, "and there was a second frost, even worse than the first. It drove all the people out, it was two years before they came back. We expect that big frost any day, but this time I will not escape. I just want to die and be buried here on my land."

only form of capital - their pigs - to raise cash to go shopping in the inflated markets.

The concept of "living memory" is a limited one in these parts, where few people live past 60. But the only year comparable to this was in 1942, nine years after the Highlands emerged from the Stone Age. "That was when I was a small boy," said one old man yesterday, "and there was a second frost, even worse than the first. It drove all the people out, it was two years before they came back. We expect that big frost any day, but this time I will not escape. I just want to die and be buried here on my land."

only form of capital - their pigs - to raise cash to go shopping in the inflated markets.

The concept of "living memory" is a limited one in these parts, where few people live past 60. But the only year comparable to this was in 1942, nine years after the Highlands emerged from the Stone Age. "That was when I was a small boy," said one old man yesterday, "and there was a second frost, even worse than the first. It drove all the people out, it was two years before they came back. We expect that big frost any day, but this time I will not escape. I just want to die and be buried here on my land."

only form of capital - their pigs - to raise cash to go shopping in the inflated markets.

The concept of "living memory" is a limited one in these parts, where few people live past 60. But the only year comparable to this was in 1942, nine years after the Highlands emerged from the Stone Age. "That was when I was a small boy," said one old man yesterday, "and there was a second frost, even worse than the first. It drove all the people out, it was two years before they came back. We expect that big frost any day, but this time I will not escape. I just want to die and be buried here on my land."

only form of capital - their pigs - to raise cash to go shopping in the inflated markets.

The concept of "living memory" is a limited one in these parts, where few people live past 60. But the only year comparable to this was in 1942, nine years after the Highlands emerged from the Stone Age. "That was when I was a small boy," said one old man yesterday, "and there was a second frost, even worse than the first. It drove all the people out, it was two years before they came back. We expect that big frost any day, but this time I will not escape. I just want to die and be buried here on my land."

only form of capital - their pigs - to raise cash to go shopping in the inflated markets.

The concept of "living memory" is a limited one in these parts, where few people live past 60. But the only year comparable to this was in 1942, nine years after the Highlands emerged from the Stone Age. "That was when I was a small boy," said one old man yesterday, "and there was a second frost, even worse than the first. It drove all the people out, it was two years before they came back. We expect that big frost any day, but this time I will not escape. I just want to die and be buried here on my land."

only form of capital - their pigs - to raise cash to go shopping in the inflated markets.

The concept of "living memory" is a limited one in these parts, where few people live past 60. But the only year comparable to this was in 1942, nine years after the Highlands emerged from the Stone Age. "That was when I was a small boy," said one old man yesterday, "and there was a second frost, even worse than the first. It drove all the people out, it was two years before they came back. We expect that big frost any day, but this time I will not escape. I just want to die and be buried here on my land."

only form of capital - their pigs - to raise cash to go shopping in the inflated markets.

The concept of "living memory" is a limited one in these parts, where few people live past 60. But the only year comparable to this was in 1942, nine years after the Highlands emerged from the Stone Age. "That was when I was a small boy," said one old man yesterday, "and there was a second frost, even worse than the first. It drove all the people out, it was two years before they came back. We expect that big frost any day, but this time I will not escape. I just want to die and be buried here on my land."

only form of capital - their pigs - to raise cash to go shopping in the inflated markets.

The concept of "living memory" is a limited one in these parts, where few people live past 60. But the only year comparable to this was in 1942, nine years after the Highlands emerged from the Stone Age. "That was when I was a small boy," said one old man yesterday, "and there was a second frost, even worse than the first. It drove all the people out, it was two years before they came back. We expect that big frost any day, but this time I will not escape. I just want to die and be buried here on my land."

only form of capital - their pigs - to raise cash to go shopping in the inflated markets.

The concept of "living memory" is a limited one in these parts, where few people live past 60. But the only year comparable to this was in 1942, nine years after the Highlands emerged from the Stone Age. "That was when I was a small boy," said one old man yesterday, "and there was a second frost, even worse than the first. It drove all the people out, it was two years before they came back. We expect that big frost any day, but this time I will not escape. I just want to die and be buried here on my land."

only form of capital - their pigs - to raise cash to go shopping in the inflated markets.

The concept of "living memory" is a limited one in these parts, where few people live past 60. But the only year comparable to this was in 1942, nine years after the Highlands emerged from the Stone Age. "That was when I was a small boy," said one old man yesterday, "and there was a second frost, even worse than the first. It drove all the people out, it was two years before they came back. We expect that big frost any day, but this time I will not escape. I just want to die and be buried here on my land."

only form of capital - their pigs - to raise cash to go shopping in the inflated markets.

The concept of "living memory" is a limited one in these parts, where few people live past 60. But the only year comparable to this was in 1942, nine years after the Highlands emerged from the Stone Age. "That was when I was a small boy," said one old man yesterday, "and there was a second frost, even worse than the first. It drove all the people out, it was two years before they came back. We expect that big frost any day, but this time I will not escape. I just want to die and be buried here on my land."

only form of capital - their pigs - to raise cash to go shopping in the inflated markets.

The concept of "living memory" is a limited one in these parts, where few people live past 60. But the only year comparable to this was in 1942, nine years after the Highlands emerged from the Stone Age. "That was when I was a small boy," said one old man yesterday, "and there was a second frost, even worse than the first. It drove all the people out, it was two years before they came back. We expect that big frost any day, but this time I will not escape. I just want to die and be buried here on my land."

only form of capital - their pigs - to raise cash to go shopping in the inflated markets.

The concept of "living memory" is a limited one in these parts, where few people live past 60. But the only year comparable to this was in 1942, nine years after the Highlands emerged from the Stone Age. "That was when I was a small boy," said one old man yesterday, "and there was a second frost, even worse than the first. It drove all the people out, it was two years before they came back. We expect that big frost any day, but this time I will not escape. I just want to die and be buried here on my land."

only form of capital - their pigs - to raise cash to go shopping in the inflated markets.

The concept of "living memory" is a limited one in these parts, where few people live past 60. But the only year comparable to this was in 1942, nine years after the Highlands emerged from the Stone Age. "That was when I was a small boy," said one old man yesterday, "and there was a second frost, even worse than the first. It drove all the people out, it was two years before they came back. We expect that big frost any day, but this time I will not escape. I just want to die and be buried here on my land."

only form of capital - their pigs - to raise cash to go shopping in the inflated markets.

The concept of "living memory" is a limited one in these parts, where few people live past 60. But the only year comparable to this was in 1942, nine years after the Highlands emerged from the Stone Age. "That was when I was a small boy," said one old man yesterday, "and there was a second frost, even worse than the first. It drove all the people out, it was two years before they came back. We expect that big frost any day, but this time I will not escape. I just want to die and be buried here on my land."

only form of capital - their pigs - to raise cash to go shopping in the inflated markets.

The concept of "living memory" is a limited one in these parts, where few people live past 60. But the only year comparable to this was in 1942, nine years after the Highlands emerged from the Stone Age. "That was when I was a small boy," said one old man yesterday, "and there was a second frost, even worse than the first. It drove all the people out, it was two years before they came back. We expect that big frost any day, but this time I will not escape. I just want to die and be buried here on my land."

only form of capital - their pigs - to raise cash to go shopping in the inflated markets.

The concept of "living memory" is a limited one in these parts, where few people live past 60. But the only year comparable to this was in 1942, nine years after the Highlands emerged from the Stone Age. "That was when I was a small boy," said one old man yesterday, "and there was a second frost, even worse than the first. It drove all the people out, it was two years before they came back. We expect that big frost any day, but this time I will not escape. I just want to die and be buried here on my land."

only form of capital - their pigs - to raise cash to go shopping in the inflated markets.

The concept of "living memory" is a limited one in these parts, where few people live past 60. But the only year comparable to this was in 1942, nine years after the Highlands emerged from the Stone Age. "That was when I was a small boy," said one old man yesterday, "and there was a second frost, even worse than the first. It drove all the people out, it was two years before they came back. We expect that big frost any day, but this time I will not escape. I just want to die and be buried here on my land."

only form of capital - their pigs - to raise cash to go shopping in the inflated markets.

The concept of "living memory" is a limited one in these parts, where few people live past 60. But the only year comparable to this was in 1942, nine years after the Highlands emerged from the Stone Age. "That was when I was a small boy," said one old man yesterday, "and there was a second frost, even worse than the first. It drove all the people out, it was two years before they came back. We expect that big frost any day, but this time I will not escape. I just want to die and be buried here on my land."

only form of capital - their pigs - to raise cash to go shopping in the inflated markets.

The concept of "living memory" is a limited one in these parts, where few people live past 60. But the only year comparable to this was in 1942, nine years after the Highlands emerged from the Stone Age. "That was when I was a small boy," said one old man yesterday, "and there was a second frost, even worse than the first. It drove all the people out, it was two years before they came back. We expect that big frost any day, but this time I will not escape. I just want to die and be buried here on my land."

only form of capital - their pigs - to raise cash to go shopping in the inflated markets.

The concept of "living memory" is a limited one in these parts, where few people live past 60. But the only year comparable to this was in 1942, nine years after the Highlands emerged from the Stone Age. "That was when I was a small boy," said one old man yesterday, "and there was a second frost, even worse than the first. It drove all the people out, it was two years before they came back. We expect that big frost any day, but this time I will not escape. I just want to die and be buried here on my land."

only form of capital - their pigs - to raise cash to go shopping in the inflated markets.

The concept of "living memory" is a limited one in these parts, where few people live past 60. But the only year comparable to this was in 1942, nine years after the Highlands emerged from the Stone Age. "That was when I was a small boy," said one old man yesterday, "and there was a second frost, even worse than the first. It drove all the people out, it was two years before they came back. We expect that big frost any day, but this time I will not escape. I just want to die and be buried here on my land."

only form of capital - their pigs - to raise cash to go shopping in the inflated markets.

The concept of "living memory" is a limited one in these parts, where few people live past 60. But the only year comparable to this was in 1942, nine years after the Highlands emerged from the Stone Age. "That was when I was a small boy," said one old man yesterday, "and there was a second frost, even worse than the first. It drove all the people out, it was two years before they came back. We expect that big frost any day, but this time I will not escape. I just want to die and be buried here on my land."

only form of capital - their pigs - to raise cash to go shopping in the inflated markets.

The concept of "living memory" is a limited one in these parts, where few people live past 60. But the only year comparable to this was in 1942, nine years after the Highlands emerged from the Stone Age. "That was when I was a small boy," said one old man yesterday, "and there was a second frost, even worse than the first. It drove all the people out, it was two years before they came back. We expect that big frost any day, but this time I will not escape. I just want to die and be buried here on my land."

only form of capital - their pigs - to raise cash to go shopping in the inflated markets.

The concept of "living memory" is a limited one in these parts, where few people live past 60. But the only year comparable to this was in 1942, nine years after the Highlands emerged from the Stone Age. "That was when I was a small boy," said one old man yesterday, "and there was a second frost, even worse than the first. It drove all the people out, it was two years before they came back. We expect that big frost any day, but this time I will not escape. I just want to die and be buried here on my land."

only form of capital - their pigs - to raise cash to go shopping in the inflated markets.

The concept of "living memory" is a limited one in these parts, where few people live past 60. But the only year comparable to this was in 1942, nine years after the Highlands emerged from the Stone Age. "That was when I was a small boy," said one old man yesterday, "and there was a second frost, even worse than the first. It drove all the people out, it was two years before they came back. We expect that big frost any day, but this time I will not escape. I just want to die and be buried here on my land."

only form of capital - their pigs - to raise cash to go shopping in the inflated markets.

The concept of "living memory" is a limited one in these parts, where few people live past 60. But the only year comparable to this was in 1942, nine years after the Highlands emerged from the Stone Age. "That was when I was a small boy," said one old man yesterday, "and there was a second frost, even worse than the first. It drove all the people out, it was two years before they came back. We expect that big frost any day, but this time I will not escape. I just want to die and be buried here on my land."

only form of capital - their pigs - to raise cash to go shopping in the inflated markets.

The concept of "living memory" is a limited one in these parts, where few people live past 60. But the only year comparable to this was in 1942, nine years after the Highlands emerged from the Stone Age. "That was when I was a small boy," said one old man yesterday, "and there was a second frost, even worse than the first. It drove all the people out, it was two years before they came back. We expect that big frost any day, but this time I will not escape. I just want to die and be buried here on my land."

only form of capital - their pigs - to raise cash to go shopping in the inflated markets.

The concept of "living memory" is a limited one in these parts, where few people live past 60. But the only year comparable to this was in 1942, nine years after the Highlands emerged from the Stone Age. "That was when I was a small boy," said one old man yesterday, "and there was a second frost, even worse than the first. It drove all the people out, it was two years before they came back. We expect that big frost any day, but this time I will not escape. I just want to die and be buried here on my land."

only form of capital - their pigs - to raise cash to go shopping in the inflated markets.

The concept of "living memory" is a limited one in these parts, where few people live past 60. But the only year comparable to this was in 1942, nine years after the Highlands emerged from the Stone Age. "That was when I was a small boy," said one old man yesterday, "and there was a second frost, even worse than the first. It drove all the people out, it was two years before they came back. We expect that big frost any day, but this time I will not escape. I just want to die and be buried here on my land."

only form of capital - their pigs - to raise cash to go shopping in the inflated markets.

The concept of "living memory" is a limited one in these parts, where few people live past 60. But the only year comparable to this was in 1942, nine years after the Highlands emerged from the Stone Age. "That was when I was a small boy," said one old man yesterday, "and there was a second frost, even worse than the first. It drove all the people out, it was two years before they came back. We expect that big frost any day, but this time I will not escape. I just want to die and be buried here on my land."

only form of capital - their pigs - to raise cash to go shopping in the inflated markets.

The concept of "living memory" is a limited one in these parts, where few people live past 60. But the only year comparable to this was in 1942, nine years after the Highlands emerged from the Stone Age. "That was when I was a small boy," said one old man yesterday, "and there was a second frost, even worse than the first. It drove all the people out, it was two years before they came back. We expect that big frost any day, but this time I will not escape. I just want to die and be buried here on my land."

only form of capital - their pigs - to raise cash to go shopping in the inflated markets.

The concept of "living memory" is a limited one in these parts, where few people live past 60. But the only year comparable to this was in 1942, nine years after the Highlands emerged from the Stone Age. "That was when I was a small boy," said one old man yesterday, "and there was a second frost, even worse than the first. It drove all the people out, it was two years before they came back. We expect that big frost any day, but this time I will not escape. I just want to die and be buried here on my land."

only form of capital - their pigs - to raise cash to go shopping in the inflated markets.

The concept of "living memory" is a limited one in these parts, where few people live past 60. But the only year comparable to this was in 1942, nine years after the Highlands emerged from the Stone Age. "That was when I was a small boy," said one old man yesterday, "and there was a second frost, even worse than the first. It drove all the people out, it was two years before they came back. We expect that big frost any day, but this time I will not escape. I just want to die and be buried here on my land."

only form of capital - their pigs - to raise cash to go shopping in the inflated markets.

The concept of "living memory" is a limited one in these parts, where few people live past 60. But the only year comparable to this was in 1942, nine years after the Highlands emerged from the Stone Age. "That was when I was a small boy," said one old man yesterday, "and there was a second frost, even worse than the first. It drove all the people out, it was two years before they came back. We expect that big frost any day, but this time I will not escape. I just want to die and be buried here on my land."

only form of capital - their pigs - to raise cash to go shopping in the inflated markets.

The concept of "living memory" is a limited one in these parts, where few people live past 60. But the only year comparable to this was in 1942, nine years after the Highlands emerged from the Stone Age. "That was when I was a small boy," said one old man yesterday, "and there was a second frost, even worse than the first. It drove all the people out, it was two years before they came back. We expect that big frost any day, but this time I will not escape. I just want to die and be buried here on my land."

only form of capital - their pigs - to raise cash to go shopping in the inflated markets.

The concept of "living memory" is a limited one in these parts, where few people live past 60. But the only year comparable to this was in 1942, nine years after the Highlands emerged from the Stone Age. "That was when I was a small boy," said one old man yesterday, "and there was a second frost, even worse than the first. It drove all the people out, it was two years before they came back. We expect that big frost any day, but this time I will not escape. I just want to die and be buried here on my land."

only form of capital - their pigs - to raise cash to go shopping in the inflated markets.

The concept of "living memory" is a limited one in these parts, where few people live past 60. But the only year comparable to this was in 1942, nine years after the Highlands emerged from the Stone Age. "That was when I was a small boy," said one old man yesterday, "and there was a second frost, even worse than the first. It drove all the people out, it was two years before they came back. We expect that big frost any day, but this time I will not escape. I just want to die and be buried here on my land."

only form of capital - their pigs - to raise cash to go shopping in the inflated markets.

The concept of "living memory" is a limited one in these parts, where few people live past 60. But the only year comparable to this was in 1942, nine years after the Highlands emerged from the Stone Age. "That was when I was a small boy," said one old man yesterday, "and there was a second frost, even worse than the first. It drove all the people out, it was two years before they came back. We expect that big frost any day, but this time I will not escape. I just want to die and be buried here on my land."

only form of capital - their pigs - to raise cash to go shopping in the inflated markets.

The concept of "living memory" is a limited one in these parts, where few people live past 60. But the only year comparable to this was in 1942, nine years after the Highlands emerged from the Stone Age. "That was when I was a small boy," said one old man yesterday, "and there was a second frost, even worse than the first. It drove all the people out, it was two years before they came back. We expect that big frost any day, but this time I will not escape. I just want to die and be buried here on my land."

only form of capital - their pigs - to raise cash to go shopping in the inflated markets.

The concept of "living memory" is a limited one in these parts, where few people live past 60. But the only year comparable to this was in 1942, nine years after the Highlands emerged from the Stone Age. "That was when I was a small boy," said one old man yesterday, "and there was a second frost, even worse than the first. It drove all the people out, it was two years before they came back. We expect that big frost any day, but this time I will not escape. I just want to die and be buried here on my land."

only form of capital - their pigs - to raise cash to go shopping in the inflated markets.

The concept of "living memory" is a limited one in these parts, where few people live past 60. But the only year comparable to this was in 1942, nine years after the Highlands emerged from the Stone Age. "That was when I was a small boy," said one old man yesterday, "and there was a second frost, even worse than the first. It drove all the people out, it was two years before they came back. We expect that big frost any day, but this time I will not escape. I just want to die and be buried here on my land."

1997 'Top Direct Lender Over Two Years' - What Mortgage Magazine.



The Chancellor can't lower your mortgage rate, but Direct Line can.

Rate	25 Year	20 Year	10 Year
Standard	6.50%	6.50%	6.50%
Direct Line	5.50%	5.50%	5.50%
Savings	5.00%	5.00%	5.00%
Fixed	5.00%	5.00%	5.00%
Variable	5.00%	5.00%	5.00%
Interest Only	5.00%	5.00%	5.00%
Portability	5.00%	5.00%	5.00%
Early Repayment	5.00%	5.00%	5.00%
Arrangement	5.00%	5.00%	5.00%

Essex man is new darling of the right

A rising star of the buoyant Tory right has emerged in Blackpool. Fran Abrams meets Iain Duncan-Smith, the latest standard-bearer of the Euro-sceptic tendency.

Introducing the Conservatives' new social security spokesman at a fringe meeting yesterday, the Buckingham MP John Bercow was fulsome in his praise. "For those of you who don't know Iain Duncan-Smith,

you soon will do," he said. "He is the sea-green incorruptible of the Conservative Party."

Asked yesterday whether he saw himself as a natural leader of the right, Mr Duncan-Smith replied: "I don't particularly believe in right and left. I think this is a battle of ideas."

He is certainly proud of his status as successor to Norman Tebbit's Chingford seat. Speaking alongside Lord Tebbit on Tuesday, he told his audience: "Here you have the maker and the man on the same platform."

However, he added later: "I will never be Norman. Norman is inimicable." He refused to



disown his predecessor's comments on race, while maintaining that as a member of the shadow cabinet he supported William Hague's dismissive line on the subject.

Elected in 1992, the former Scots Guards captain has risen

quickly to prominence. Colleagues admire his ability to master a brief and his uncompromising attitude. He was one of 26 Conservative MPs who voted against the Government over the Maastricht Treaty.

Dapper but prematurely

grey and balding at 43, "he wears a pinstripe well but the only thing about him much softer than Norman are his vowels," according to one commentator.

Mr Duncan-Smith may be loyal to his leader now, but he

did take an opportunity this week to take a swipe at John Major. Praising Hague's promise to oppose a single currency if a referendum were called, he added: "Imagine! A Conservative leader saying: 'We have made a decision!'"

Euro-sceptic colleagues clearly feel that Mr Duncan-Smith is one to watch. He has been among a number of right-wingers who have made their presence very firmly felt during the week at Blackpool.

There may have been polite

Duncan-Smith: 'I don't believe in left or right. This is a battle of ideas' Photograph: Tom Pilscon

applause for both William Hague and John Major in the Winter Gardens, but out on the fringe the story was different.

While no one in the Tory Party would admit to being pleased by the disastrous result it suffered on May 1 this year, the tone in some quarters has been less than repentant. The party's Euro-sceptic wing have been out in force at the conference, reinforcing what they clearly see as a chance to grab the baton of power.

If Mr Duncan-Smith should see himself as a possible successor to Mr Hague, he will probably not be the only one. A big turnout is expected tonight for a fringe meeting to be addressed by Michael Portillo. Its title is intriguing, if ironic: "The ghost of Toryism past. The spirit of Conservatism future?"

VIEW FROM THE FLOOR

How to bring back the disenfranchised

Yesterday's headlines filled me, and many others here, with a feeling of disbelief. Lord Tebbit simply illustrated how out of touch he was when he voiced the outdated and marginal view that the multicultural society could not work.

Surely he must realise what an important role the ethnic communities play in our party, and how central they will be to the task of rebuilding it. We need to reach out to people from all backgrounds and all cultures to make them feel an important part of our future, rather than allowing them to feel alienated through attacks like this.

The reality is that we live in a multicultural society, and as a future government we have to rise to the challenges it presents. Young people like myself have grown up in a country which embraces many cultures. We do not have the same fears, and we see today's society as one which presents more opportunities than the mythical era which Norman Tebbit seems to hark back to.

It was dinosaurs like him who contributed to our devastating defeat on 1 May.

They gave the impression that we were a marginalised party, lacking compassion and only concerned with our own self-interest.

We have to bring back the people who left us at the election because they felt disenfranchised. They felt that we had lost touch with the needs and concerns of normal people in this country.

If we want to win in five years' time we have to embrace the mainstream agenda rather than the unrepresentative views of someone stuck in a bygone era. William Hague's angry reaction to Lord Tebbit's remarks shows he has recognised the need to recapture the centre ground and to appeal to the maximum number of people.

It is time now for people on the right-wing margins of the party to listen to their leader's message and realise that he is showing them the only way to win and the only way to survive.

John Major said on 2 May that when the curtain falls, it is time to get off the stage. Norman, are you listening?

— Gavin Williamson

Franco says "When Richard my Financial Director winces, I know I've got my prices just about right."

Richard Clapson
Finance Director,
Debonair.

Franco Mancassola
Chairman, Debonair.

debonair
We're opening up the skies.
Call now on 0541 500 300

Daily scheduled
flights from
London Luton
one way fare.

Nice*
from
£69

Madrid
from
£69

Barcelona
from
£69

Copenhagen
from
£69

Munich
from
£69

Rome
from
£89

Dusseldorf
(Mönchengladbach)
from
£59

Weekend Specials
from
£74
return

Renewing in October or November?

Save up to

£50.

Save on home insurance in minutes

Just give us a call and you could save up to £50 a year with Alliance & Leicester's buildings and contents insurance. We'll give you an instant quote, instant discounts, even instant cover.

More cover for less money

- New for old cover
- 24-hour free legal and emergency helpline
- Extra cover for stolen keys, freezer failure even wedding presents
- Interest-free direct debit

Instant discounts

- Locks discount
- Alarm discount
- Optional excess discount

Call FREE now

0500 50 40 80

LINES OPEN 9AM - 5PM WEEKDAYS 9AM - NOON SATURDAY

**ALLIANCE
LEICESTER**

*Effective 13.12.97. Except Weekend Specials fares are one way. No round trip or Saturday night stay required, excluding tax and subject to availability. Join 'Destinations' 10 returns, one free! For our European Vacations brochure, call 01293 886006. Call us now or contact your travel agent.

Kohl backs Eurofighter

Chancellor Helmut Kohl's government yesterday gave the green light for Germany to buy the controversial Eurofighter combat jet and said it was confident parliament would back its decision.

Volker Ruehe, the defence minister, said after a cabinet meeting that ministers had approved his plan to buy 180 Eurofighters at a total cost of 23 billion marks (£8.5bn).

Britain, which partners Germany in the project with Italy and Spain, said it was delighted by the decision. The lower house must still vote to approve the purchase in November.

Mr Ruehe said the project was vital for Germany's defence and offered the best in price and capability. "No other aircraft offers better value for money. The only planes that are cheaper are inferior," he said.

French unions disrupt trains

The Socialist-led French government yesterday faced its first real challenge by the unions since its election four months ago. Rail services throughout France, and metro services in Paris, were seriously disrupted by railway unions demanding shorter hours, higher pay and the creation of new jobs.

Strikes reduced main-line trains by half and Metro trains on some lines to one in three. The action was intended to bring pressure on a conference of the government, unions and employers, starting tomorrow, which will discuss ways of reducing unemployment, currently 12.5 per cent.

The conference will focus especially on the vague campaign promise of the Prime Minister, Lionel Jospin, to create new jobs by reducing statutory working hours from 39 to 35, with no loss of pay. Since his election in June, Mr Jospin has been trying to shake off the promise, but it remains a bitterly divisive issue within his government, and between French unions and employers.

Yesterday's strikes, supported by the four main rail unions, sought the 35-hour week (already the norm for railway drivers), an increase in pay and the creation of tens of thousands of new railway jobs.



Long wait: Travellers at Gare du Nord in Paris as strikes hit rail services

Photograph: AFP

The CGT Communist-led union is also seeking retirement for railwaymen at 55.

The transport minister, Jean-Claude Gayssot, himself a Communist and former railwayman, has announced the creation of 1,000 temporary rail jobs for young people. Despite evidence of huge over-manning, especially in the mainline French railways (the SNCF), the unions say the recruits should be only the beginning and should be permanent.

Mr Gayssot invited all the rail unions and em-

ployers to a conference on working hours on 20 October. He risked the wrath of travellers by refusing to condemn yesterday's action. "You can't ask a Communist minister to say he is against a strike," he joked. "Nor that he wanted one, obviously."

Behind the union militancy lies the threat of cuts in rail subsidies, especially to the SNCF, first discussed by the former centre-right government, but not yet rejected formally by the Jospin administration.

— John Lichfield

Voter apathy makes Serbian presidential poll invalid

Election results from the presidential elections in Serbia on Sunday confirmed yesterday that Vojislav Seselj, a far-right nationalist, came out ahead of his pro-government opponent, Zoran Djindjic. But the far right has not yet won. A combination of apathy and resentment of the two candidates meant fewer than 50 per cent voted. The election is invalid, and the presidential elections will have to be held again from scratch — possibly with different candidates.

All the margins were narrow. Mr Seselj gained 49.1 per cent of the vote, just ahead of Mr Djindjic's 47.9 per cent. The turnout was 48.97 per cent, just short of the crucial halfway mark.

The future looks messy and confused. Zoran Djindjic, a democratic opposition leader who boycotted the parliamentary elections and the first round of the presidential elections, has hinted that he might throw his hat back into the ring when the presidential elections are repeated. But Mr Djindjic,

the first non-socialist mayor of Belgrade since 1945, is now at war with one of his former allies, Vuk Draskovic.

Mr Draskovic last week engineered Mr Djindjic's removal as the first non-socialist mayor of Belgrade since the Second World War. Mr Djindjic claimed this week that now is the time for the democratic opposition to consolidate and organise. He claimed: "Our offensive will follow."

In neighbouring Montenegro, early results had suggested that the reformist prime minister Milo Djukanovic would defeat his opponent, who is supported by the Yugoslav president and master-manipulator, Slobodan Milosevic. But final results showed that Mr Djukanovic came second, by a tiny margin. Neither candidate gained 50 per cent of the vote, so that Montenegro, too, will need a run-off elections between the two front-runners in 10 days' time.

— Steve Crawshaw

15% OFF ALL BATH SUITES AND TAPS.



SAVE £52.35

CONTEMPORARY Bath Suite with Chrome Finish Taps and Fittings. Toilet Seat and Bath Panel Was £349 Now £296.65

SAVE £6.75

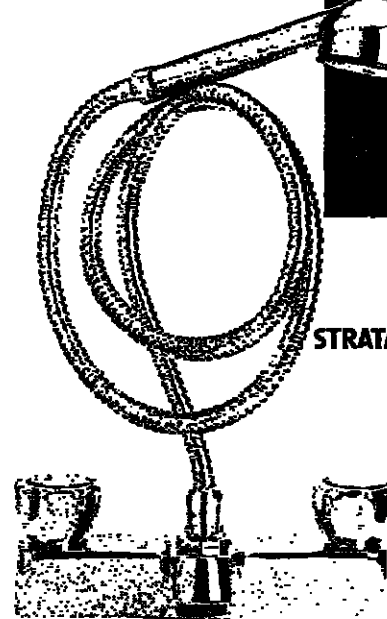
1901 Basin Taps Chrome Finish Was £44.99 Now £38.24

1901 Bath Shower Mixer Chrome Finish Was £135 Now £114.75

SAVE £79.35

VICTORIANA 5 Piece Bath Suite: Chrome Finish Fittings Was £229 Now £149.65

SAVE £20.25



STRATA Bath Shower Mixer Chrome Finish Was £209.99 Now £176.49

SAVE £13.50

SAVE £4.50

STRATA Basin Taps Chrome Finish Was £29.99 Now £25.49

SAVE £25.35

VICTORIANA Bath Shower Mixer: Gold Finish Was £149 Now £123.65

THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOMIEBASE

MONDAY-THURSDAY 8AM-8PM • FRIDAY 8AM-9PM • SATURDAY 8AM-8PM • SUNDAY 10AM-4PM!

Prices marked include 15% discount. *Does not include taps. Consists of bath, pedestal, basin, cistern and pan. Offer excludes taps sold with Homebase fridges. All prices are approximate and not to scale. Merchandise subject to availability. Products and offers may vary in Northern Ireland and Eire. †Stores in Scotland open Sunday 9am-5pm. Opening times may vary. Please call 0845 601 000 during office hours for details of your nearest store.

Bosnian Croats deny murders

Nine Bosnian Croats and their former leader pleaded innocent to UN charges that they terrorised and murdered Muslims in a vicious campaign of ethnic cleansing.

Dario Kordic, the most senior suspect in custody at the Yugoslav war crimes tribunal, looked relaxed and confident as he entered "not guilty" pleas to

13 separate crimes against humanity and war crimes charges.

Each charge carries a maximum life sentence.

Troops under Kordic's control are blamed for a spree of killing and destruction in the central Bosnian Lasva Valley in 1992 and 1993 aimed at purging the area of Muslims.

War crimes trial told of fears for Papon's life



An artist's impression of Papon in court yesterday

Defence lawyers claimed yesterday that Maurice Papon, the 87-year-old former Vichy official accused of "crimes against humanity" during the Second World War might die during his trial unless he was released from jail.

The first day of the trial in Bordeaux, which is expected to last over two months, was dominated by argument over whether Mr Papon should go to a prison cell between hearings, as French law demands. The trial was adjourned until today to allow doctors to examine the former Paris police chief and budget minister.

Mr Papon's chief lawyer, Jean-Marc Varaut, warned that he and Mr Papon's fam-

ily would "take all appropriate action" if the accused was ordered to stay in jail and died during the trial.

Mr Papon is accused of complicity in crimes against humanity for his role in the arrest and deportation of 1,558 Jewish men, women and children from the Bordeaux area in 1942-44. His lawyers say his role was minor and that he helped Jews to escape, where he could. The prosecution, which has assembled 50,000 documents, including arrest and transport warrants bearing Mr Papon's signature, says he pursued Jews, not from anti-Semitism, but to prove his "competence and efficiency" as an administrator.

— John Lichfield

Scotland bids for EU action

Donald Dewar, Secretary of State for Scotland, last night promised to fight for the country to get its "share of the action" during next year's British presidency of the European Union.

Welcoming a government announcement that Edinburgh will host a meeting of EU foreign ministers during the United Kingdom's six months in the chair, Mr Dewar said he hoped other political gatherings among dozens being staged in Britain would take place in Scotland.

On a two-day visit to Brussels, Mr Dewar opened a new Brussels office which will lobby the European Commission

and European Parliament on behalf of the Highlands and Islands. But he emphasised that even after devolution, Britain's voice in the EU would remain that of the central government. "The British effort is a team effort and we in Scotland are part of that team. The United Kingdom is a partnership and Scotland will remain very much part of that partnership."

Scottish Office ministers would be fielded at EU meetings of particular interest as they were now, he said. "Where there is a strong Scottish interest, Scottish ministers are involved in the relevant meetings."

NO CLAIM? YOU GAIN.

Discover private health cover with up to 50% no-claims discount.

Prime Health

Call NOW 0800 77 99 55

quoting reference 1000714106

هكذا من الأصل

Earth has lost two-thirds of its forests

Despite a quarter-century of intensive campaigning, the world's forests are shrinking more quickly than ever. Nicholas Schoon, Environment Correspondent, looks at the latest attempt to sum up the destruction.

Nearly two-thirds of the earth's original forest cover which existed before civilisation took off has now disappeared, the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) said yesterday.

Despite Earth Summits, television documentaries and all the public awareness of deforestation, the rates at which woodlands are being logged out, burnt and turned into farmland or scrub has risen in the 1990s.

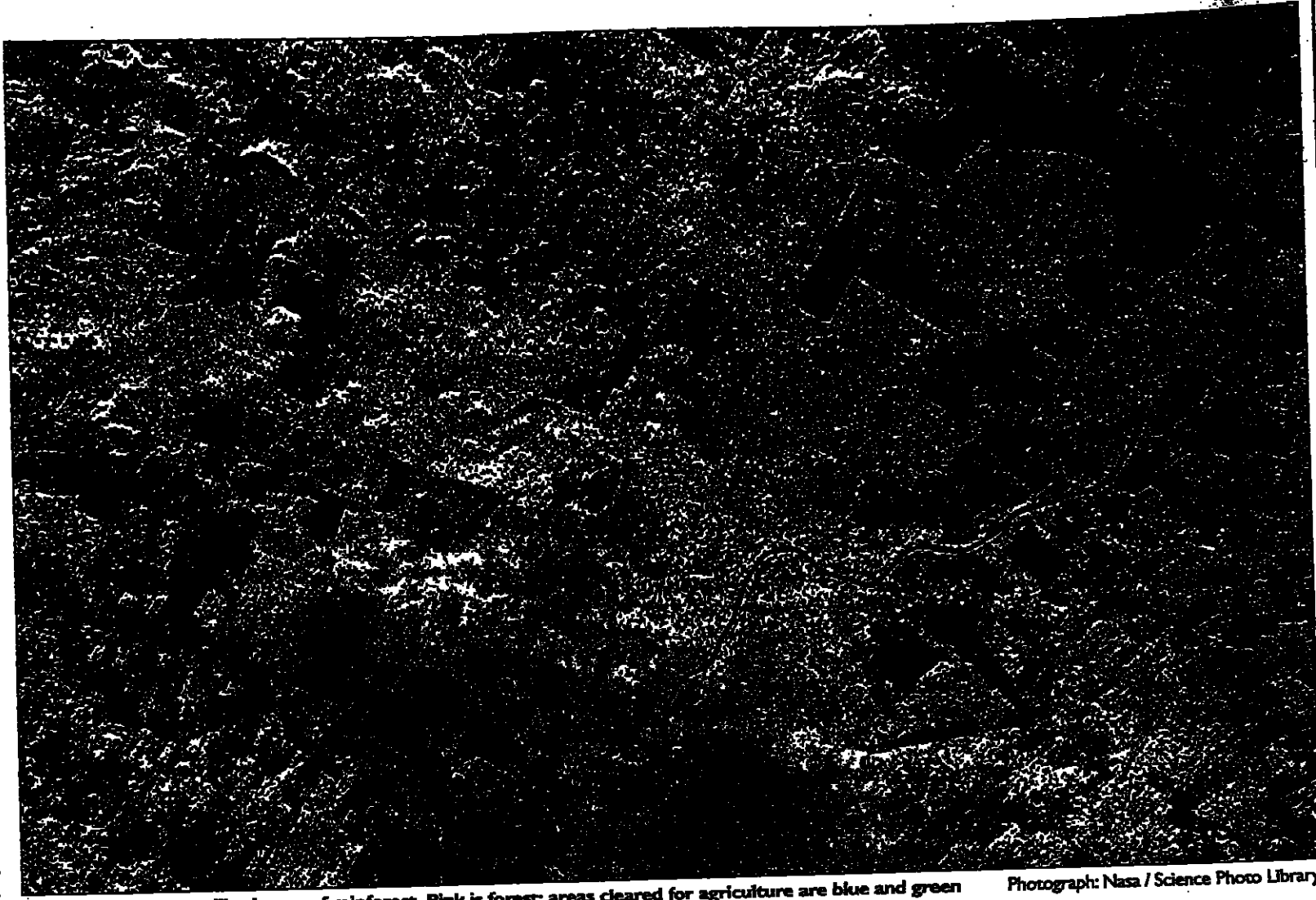
If current trends continue, then within a decade there will be virtually no natural forests left in several countries scattered around the globe. WWF gave Pakistan, Haiti, Madagascar and the Philippines as examples.

Francis Sullivan, the world-wide conservation body's chief forest campaigner, said that would be true of the entire planet half-way through the next century unless there was a turnaround. "In one generation we are facing the almost complete loss of natural forest."

WWF has joined with the respected, Cambridge-based World Conservation Monitoring Centre in drawing up maps of each continent showing their original forest cover and what is left now. They admit it is impossible to be completely accurate when the rate of forest loss is accelerating and many poor countries keep poor records.

But their overall conclusion is that 81 million square kilometres existed 8,000 years ago, at the end of the last Ice Age, covering just over 60 per cent of the earth's land surface if ice-covered Greenland and Antarctica are excluded. Today that has fallen to just over 30 million square kilometres.

While attention has focused on the forest fires in South-east Asia in the past few weeks, the head of WWF's Brazil-



A coloured radar satellite image of rainforest. Pink is forest; areas cleared for agriculture are blue and green

Photograph: Nasa / Science Photo Library

ian organisation told a London press conference that the burning of forests, brush and pasture in the Amazon this year was worse than ever. The burning season lasts from July through to November.

Several airports in the region had been closed. A huge pall of smoke has been hanging over Manaus, a city in the heart of the jungle with more than a million people, and there had been an upsurge in respiratory illnesses, said Caro Bateman. There had been a 25 per cent

increase in the numbers of fires recorded by satellite.

The latest government estimate for deforestation in the Brazilian Amazon was 15,000 square kilometres a year, an area nearly as large as Wales - but that dates back to 1994. The Brazilian environment agency has suffered financial and technical problems in trying to record the destruction from space, with three recent changes in satellites and incomplete coverage.

Logging for timber is only part of the

problem. The forests are disappearing to provide pasture, plantations and cropland - although sometimes the cleared land is only used for a few years before its fertility collapses and scrub invades. This is what happened in Britain, which was mostly covered in forest, over the past 4,000 years.

Apart from wiping out literally millions of plant and animal species, the forest loss is altering local climates, hastening water run off and even damaging sea fisheries and reefs as silt is

washed rapidly off the land. Forest burning also produces much of the extra carbon dioxide humanity is pouring into the atmosphere, threatening global warming.

The WWF wants ten per cent of each different type of forest, in each country, around the globe to be given permanent protection. Several countries, but not yet Britain, have pledged to do this. Mr Sullivan said WWF's top priority was to get Indonesia, Russia, the US and Brazil to agree.

Conflicting needs that stifle growth

Forests are still neglected in wealthy, industrialised nations as well as developing countries, according to the Worldwide Fund for Nature. And it picked out as an example yesterday the Glenfeshie estate, at the southern end of Scotland's Cairngorm mountains.

Glenfeshie - a 170 sq km sporting estate - contains a remnant of the great Caledonian pine forest that once covered much of Scotland. But no young trees have been able to grow up for many decades because the big red deer population, kept high for the sake of stalking by wealthy human hunters, eat the seedlings and saplings. The woods that remain are full of elderly trees.

Glenfeshie was designated as a National Nature Reserve more than 30 years ago. But that has not stopped its wildlife value gradually declining because of what conservationists see as mismanagement under a series of private owners.

Three years ago a mysterious charitable trust, Will Woodlands, bought the estate off a Midlands furniture manufacturer for about £5m with the stated aim of improving nature conservation.

The trust, set up by a now deceased widow in memory of her wealthy husband, planned to keep the deer out of the remaining woods using large fences, and continue to maintain high numbers for stalking. But deer fences are a known killer of the rare capercaillie and black grouse, birds which fly into them. And, outside the fences, the woods would still have been unable to spread and regenerate.

The trust applied for tree regeneration grants from the Government's Forestry Authority but was turned down. Conservation groups like WWF believe they played a major part in persuading the Forestry Authority to refuse these grants on the grounds that Will Woodlands' plans did not give enough weight to regenerating forests and conserving natural species.

Now the trust has put Glenfeshie back on the market at £5 to £6m. It may yet end up in the hands of owners mainly interested in running it as a sporting estate - in which case the forest and wildlife would be at risk of further decline.

Nicholas Schoon

The Beauty.

And the Beast.

It's all happening at the London Motor Show, Hall 1.

October 16th will be a great day for true motoring enthusiasts. Chevrolet will unveil two new stars, each unique and each offering totally new experiences to Sports Car buyers. The UK Premier of the Corvette and the Camaro. The Beauty is sleek, powerful, roomy and entertaining. A true Sports Tourer with all the conveniences of a luxury cruiser. For years, the brand has been one of America's favorite pastimes.

The Beast is Corvete. The new Corvete. Launched in Geneva earlier this year and now offered topless. But with plenty under the hood. Corvete is power in the raw. Fast, furious, magnificent. A Sporting Icon. Carefully monitored production results in limited Corvete availability. Reserve one early. The Beast is for taming. The Beauty is for loving.

CHEVROLET

<http://www.chevrolet-europe.com> For more information, also call 03 15 - 66 11 04.

Ostrich, kangaroo and other exotic meats off the menu

The supermarket chain Somerfield yesterday said it had abandoned its plans to sell ostrich, kangaroo and crocodile meat. Amanda Kelly explains how companies are responding to customer concern over the farming of exotic meats.

The Somerfield chain, which includes Gateway, Solo and Food Giant stores, was due to sell ostrich, kangaroo and crocodile meat next week as part of a new cooked-to-order meat range. But yesterday the company announced that they had been taken off the menu.

Ostrich meat first appeared in British shops in 1990. It was hoped that the low-fat meat would prove popular with a health-conscious nation. But, even with the red meat scare over bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), the idea has never really taken off.

A Somerfield spokesman said yesterday: "We always test customer reaction before we introduce new products and our research showed that there was some concern about the way the meat is produced."

The move comes less than two weeks after Britain's largest supermarket chain,

after Britain's largest supermarket chain,

Out of stock Tesco no longer sells exotic meats Photograph: John Lawrence

Tesco, announced that it would no longer be selling kangaroo steaks or other exotic meats because of a lack of demand. Concern over animal welfare is said to be partly behind the decision by Sainsbury, Marks and Spencer and the Co-op not to stock the exotic lines. Sainsbury said it would continue selling them in "a small number of stores", while Waitrose said it would continue selling them until customer demand told them otherwise.

The main method of slaughter on the 400 ostrich farms in Britain is electric stunning, although in some cases a bolt pistol is used to knock the animal out

before it is killed. Philip Lymbery, Campaigns Director or Compassion in World Farming, believes that both these methods are cruel. He added: "We believe that ostriches are fundamentally unsuited to farming. They are essentially wild animals, easily frightened, difficult to handle and difficult to rear."

Craig Culley, secretary of the British Domesticated Ostrich Association, said: "All farms are monitored by the local authority and are checked regularly by vets ... Our policy is to do everything the clean way as people demand and the animals do not suffer."

Dublin's defence minister, David Andrews, was last night installed as the new Irish foreign minister and co-sponsor of the Northern Ireland peace talks. Mr Andrews, 62, regarded as a "safe pair of hands" returns to a post he previously held in 1992 when he helped formulate the formula for Northern Ireland diplomacy. He replaces Ray Burke who was forced to step down after admitting accepting £30,000 from a developer seeking planning permissions. Mr Burke, a former chairman of Dublin County Council, could not explain why the payment was made.

Following Mr Burke's departure from both the cabinet and the Dail, Opposition leaders are targeting the Taoiseach, Bertie Aherne. The Democratic Left leader, Proinsias de Rossa, said yesterday that Mr Aherne's conspicuous failure to tackle the long-simmering Burke payment row highlighted his "indecisiveness, and ineptitude". A controversial passports-for-investment scheme under which Irish citizenship was provided for wealthy foreigners in return for investment in Irish firms is to be dropped. Breaches of procedures under the scheme by Mr Burke while justice minister helped to accelerate his resignation on Tuesday. Mr Aherne faces a battle to win the two Dail seats left vacant by Mr Burke's exit and the death of the Labour chairman Jim Kemmy.

— Alan Murdoch, Dublin

The Prison Ombudsman, Sir Peter Woodhead, yesterday highlighted a gap in his powers which prevents him from investigating the most serious of Prison Service responsibilities — the avoidance of suicides or other unnatural deaths. After discussions with Inquest, the group that investigates deaths in custody, Sir Peter is to raise the issue at a meeting next week with the Home Office minister Joyce Quin. His current powers limit him to investigating complaints from prisoners — once a prisoner is dead he cannot look at the case and cannot take complaints from the inmate's family. Sir Peter said: "I have got considerable concerns about what goes on and about the frustrations of families. There are internal prison investigations but these are never disclosed."

Sir Peter said he felt the Prison Service generally did everything possible to safeguard prisoners, often those with mental health problems, who were at high risk of attempting suicide. But families faced the frustration of never finding out what had happened. Inquests were geared to establishing the medical reason for death, he said, adding: "It is possible that I am well-placed to conduct independent investigations." Deborah Coles, co-director of Inquest, said: "There should be no more serious issue for the Prison Service than the unnatural death of someone while in their care."

— Patricia Wynn Davies

A drunken British soldier lashed out at a holidaymaker because the man made an insulting remark about his manhood as he was relieving himself under a tree outside a disco at a Cypriot holiday resort, a court on the island was told yesterday. The claim was made by Thassos Katsikides, the lawyer representing Roger Bell, 26, from Liverpool, who is serving with the King's Rifles, pleading guilty to assaulting Barry Ford and his girlfriend, Clare Harbour, outside a disco at Ayia Napa on 2 August. Mr Ford, 23, from London, suffered a broken hand and needed 22 stitches in his face, and Ms Harbour, 22, was left nursing a badly bruised arm. The soldier, who faces a maximum three-year jail term and a £2,000 fine, will be sentenced on Monday.

**'They flee from me that
sometime did me seek'**

by Sir Thomas Wyatt

*They flee from me that sometime did me seek
With naked foot stalking in my chamber.
I have seen them gentle tame and meek
That now are wild and do not remember
That sometime they put themselves in danger
To take bread at my hand; and now they range
Busily seeking with a continual change.*

*Thanked be fortune, it hath been otherwise
Twenty times better; but once in special,
In this array after a pleasant guise,
When her loose gown from her shoulders did fall,
And she me caught in her arms long and small;
Therewithal sweetly did me kiss,
And softly said, dear heart, how like you this?*

*It was no dream: I lay broad waking.
But all is turned through my gentleness
Into a strange fashion of forsaking;
And I have leave to go of her goodness,
And she also to use new-fangledness.
But since that I so kindly am served,
I would fain know what she hath deserved*

This poem completes our choices from *The Nation's Favourite Love Poems* (edited by Daisy Goodwin: BBC Books, £4.99). The results of the BBC poll to find Britain's best-loved romantic verse will be announced tonight at 10.30pm on BBC 1.

Sir Thomas Wyatt (1503-42) was imprisoned several times by Henry VIII, once for a suspected affair with Anne Boleyn.

IF WE'RE FASTER
AND CHEAPER THAN
THE AA OR RAC
WHY JOIN THEM?

<http://www.greenflag.co.uk>

CALL FREE TODAY ON
0800 001 353

Currys

**LATEST
TECHNOLOGY**

LAUNDRY

**UP
TO**

£120 TRADE-IN

AEG

- New range of washing machines with softline styling, elegant curves and easy, helpful displays.
- Extremely quiet washing machines with 86700 being the quietest in the world.
- Advanced engineering from Germany incorporating innovation yet the highest standards of economy, durability and performance.

 <p>12 MONTHS INTEREST FREE OPTION*</p>	<p>ADVANCED FEATURES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Variable low crease spin cycle. ■ Rinse hold facility. ■ Fuzzy logic load adjustment. ■ Unique stain action programme. 	 <p>12 MONTHS INTEREST FREE OPTION*</p>
<p>£80 TRADE-IN</p>	<p>AEG <small>NEW 800 Spin</small> 1000 Spin "Lavamat" Autowasher Model 5060D. Price Excluding Trade-in £269.99.</p>	<p>AEG <small>NEW 800 Spin</small> Lavamat Autowasher ■ Fuzzy logic load adjustment ■ Stain action programme Model 5040D Price Excluding Trade-in £479.99</p>
<p>£469.99</p>	<p>TRADE-IN PRICE</p>	<p>TRADE-IN PRICE</p> <p>£429.99</p>

 <p>AEG 1200 Spin 'OKKO Lavamatt' Logic Autowasher ■ Advanced fuzzy logic ■ LED multi display ■ 1A grade wash performance. Model 7260SL Trade-In Excluding Trade-in £699.99</p> <p>TRADE-IN PRICE £599.99</p>	 <p>AEG 1600 Spin 'OKKO Lavamatt' Autowasher Advanced fuzzy logic. Model 8670L Price Excluding Trade-in £919.59 LAVENDER STONES ONLY</p> <p>TRADE-IN PRICE £799.99</p>	 <p>AEG 1200 Spin 'OKKO Lavamatt' Washer Dryer ■ 22 wash programmes. ■ 60 Wash plus Model 7260 Trade-In Excluding Trade-in £799.99</p> <p>TRADE-IN PRICE £699.99</p>
---	--	--

<p>◆ EXAMPLE OF INTEREST-FREE OPTION ON SELECTED PRODUCTS</p>	<p>HOW IT WORKS Account is interest free if repaid in full before (or with) 6th, 9th, 10th or 12th monthly repayment according to the period stated with the product. See our 'How It Works' storecard in-store for details. Example based on Cash Price of \$499.99.</p>	<p>EITHER 12 MONTHS INTEREST FREE OPTION</p>	<p>20% deposit of \$99.99, 12 monthly payments of \$19.59, Balance of \$297.94 repaid by 12th and 13th monthly instalment. Total amount payable \$499.99. INTEREST 0%.</p>
--	--	---	---

Only Currys bring you all

NEW

**NEXT DAY DELIVERY
& INSTALLATION
7 DAYS A WEEK**

Up to 5 years expert
warranty when you buy
a Macintosh
Compaq or Sun
Workstation.

UPRIS INTEREST
FREE CREDIT WHEN
PURCHASED WITH
ANY PRODUCT OVER
£500. Ask in-store
for details.

**EXCLUSIVE
SPECIALS
& OFFERS**
*For exceptional
value, exclusive to
DSC Retail Ltd.

INSTANT CREDIT
With Currys Premier
Advantage Account
you can take
advantage of any
credit offer in-store.
Ask for details.

**INDEPENDENT
REVIEWS**

CURRY'S DIRECT
For direct, drop-out
delivery, Freephone
0333 300 000. Fax
01442 895 145. Email
currys@currys.co.uk
10am-5pm Sun.
Delivery charges
from £2.50 per item
of DSC Retail Ltd.

**AWARD
WINNING
IN-STORE
REPAIRS**
Repairs 7 days
a week. Sun
wherever you
are.

**PC RAM
UPGRADE**
Available in
store.

PC REPAIRS
7 DAYS A
WEEK 9.00
Call cost 16
minutes.

**LOWEST
PRICES
FOR THE SPOT**

Many of our current prices are Currys
lowest ever. Find a lower price for the
same product and offer, complete, new,
open box or in stock in a local shop within
7 days of purchase and we'll match it.

**WE'LL NEVER
BE BEATEN**

**12 MONTHS
INTEREST FREE OPTION***
ON THESE AEG AND MIELE LAUNDRY APPLIANCES.

Miele

- German precision engineering using the finest materials and the most advanced technology. Washing Machine built to a standard, not a price.
- Advanced microprocessors control the electronic motor and programme and temperature selections.
- All Miele Washing Machines feature the 'update' facility when new detergents enter the market place. Miele can be electronically

updated to be compatible.

ADVANCED FEATURES INCLUDE:

- Class 'A' wash performance.
- Spin speeds from 600-1100 rpm.
- Hydromatic wash system for high efficiency water management.
- LED fault detection.
- Stainless steel drum.
- Novotronic computer controls.
- Lifetime corrosion guarantee on cabinet.

Miele
 1100 Spin 'Novotronic'
 Autowasher
 Model W88S.
 Price Excluding Trade-in £374 95.

TRADE-IN PRICE

£774.99

£100
 TRADE-IN

<p>Miele <small>TRADESIN</small></p> <p>1200 Spin "Novotronic" Washing Machine</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Glass "fast" performance ■ Spin speeds from 400-1200 rpm, the fastest on the market. ■ Advanced wash system for high efficiency water management. ■ LED fault detection. ■ Lifetime corrosion guarantee on cabinet. <p>TRADE-IN PRICE</p> <p>Model W633. Price Including Trade-In £274.99</p> <p>£84.99</p> <p><small>LARGEST STORES ONLY</small></p>	<p>Miele <small>TRADEIN</small></p> <p>11lb "Novotronic" Tumble Dryer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Electronic moisture control. ■ Single switch selection for fault diagnosis programme. ■ Programme sequence indicator lights. ■ Model T430N. Price Including Trade-In £454.99 <p>TRADE-IN PRICE</p> <p>£594.99</p>
---	---

**LEAD THE
T WITH 48
MONTH
PAYMENTS**

**20% deposit of \$39.99.
48 monthly repayments
of \$13.53, total amount
payable \$709.43.**

APR 20.5%

For home values £1000 and over, minimum deposit is 10%.
Subject to status when you open a Current Provider Advance
Account. Minimum credit requirements available on request. See
Dept. FRANK, Maryland Insurance, P.O. Box 1000, Silver
Spring, MD 20910. (410) 261-1000.
TTL (Applicants must be 18 or over, 21 in N. Ireland).

his...



**SAME DAY
DELIVERY**

For most large items
by phone before
10am Monday to
Friday and free
within 10 miles of
a Curry's store

**IN
HOME**


GAS


ELECTRIC

Currys

**BRITAIN'S BIGGEST
ELECTRICAL STORES**

All Superstores offer new products, latest model appliances and Sunday
opening. Ring 0930 550000 for details of your nearest store.

Written quotations from Curry's, Dept 161, Hensel Way, Herts MK2
Currys are licensed credit brokers. Ask in-store for details.

هكذا من الأصل

كلنا من الأصل

British Muslims horrified by Tebbit's dark vision

While Lord Tebbit decried multiculturalism at a fringe meeting in Blackpool, the Queen, on a state visit to Pakistan, praised the contribution made to this country by migrants. Kim Sengupta listened to anger and unease among Britain's Muslim community.

Norman Tebbit has of course raised the question of race, religion and loyalty before. But to some British Muslims his latest incursion was more incendiary than Enoch Powell's notorious "rivers of blood" speech.

For them Lord Tebbit has attempted to tear away the consensus that binds Britain's multiracial society. He has offered instead a dark vision of a future of division, strife and ethnic cleansing. Within hours of a 15-year-old Asian boy addressing the Conservative conference in Blackpool, the former party chairman was saying "multiculturalism is a divisive force". He added that it could lead to a situation when "this kingdom will become like Yugoslavia".

In Pakistan, the Queen wel-

comed the transformation of the country into a multicultural society. She said in a speech at Islamabad: "A distinctive new identity - that of British Muslim - has emerged. I find that healthy and welcome ... The Pakistani community has been a driving force. Their contribution to all walks of life has won great respect."

Among many Muslims the reaction to Lord Tebbit's speech was one of anger. The writer and broadcaster Yasmin Alibhai-Brown said: "What Tebbit did was disgraceful. It was worse than the rivers of blood speech. He quite deliberately mentioned Yugoslavia knowing that people here had seen the horrors that took place on their television screens so recently. He is basically talking about civil war, because he implies the people in Yugoslavia could not live alongside a Muslim population. By his words he is creating an atmosphere of intolerance". Ms Alibhai-Brown is preparing a report for the Institute of Public Policy Research on influence of politicians on public perceptions about race. Her findings are expected to be passed on to the Home Office.

Dr Ghayasuddin Siddiqui, the leader of Britain's Muslim

parliament, also deplored Lord Tebbit's speech and in particular what he called the "demonising" of Muslims. He said: "This man is living in the past,

multiculturalism is a reality. One only has to go to the areas where the immigrants have settled to see the life and the energy there. The Queen is, of

course, absolutely right, immigrants have contributed a huge amount to this country ... There are around 40 seats in Parliament which could be decided by

the ethnic minority vote, many of them Muslims. Why should these people vote Conservative after this kind of a speech?"

Selim Nasrudin Ali was

thinking of joining the Tory party, but is now having doubts after hearing Lord Tebbit's views. The 47-year-old businessman from Walthamstow, north-east

Racial harmony: A group of young people enjoying a drink and a chat in a London coffee bar
Photograph: Andrew Buurman

London, said: "I have felt the Conservatives are the natural party for business ... so I thought of joining. Now I don't know ... He appears to be saying Muslims must give up their culture. This will alienate a lot of blacks and Asians from the Tories."

But for Meena Chaudhary, a 20-year-old student, the appeal of the Tories for ethnic minorities is "immaterial". She said: "They must be bloody stupid to want to join a clapped out old party anyway. Let's face it, what we have is a bitter old man speaking at a fringe thing of a party that does not matter."



Tory peer fails the cricket test

Lord Tebbit, the troublesome Tory peer who upset his party leader by refusing to tone down his views on race relations, was booted by his own cricket test yesterday.

Responding to repeated claims by the former party chairman that multiculturalism was divisive, William Hague deployed his own version of Tebbit's test, under which people were judged to be fully integrated only if they cheered for England.

"Norman has always had his own cricket tests of various kinds. I have my own cricket test: if you don't want to be part of the team then get off the field. People ought to bear that in mind at future conferences," he said.

Mr Hague said he believed the comments made by Lord Tebbit would be interpreted by many people as racist, and as such they should be avoided.

"I want the Conservative Party to stand for people who

work hard and save hard and are self-reliant and want to be independent. Tory values and also members come from every part of society," he said in a radio interview.

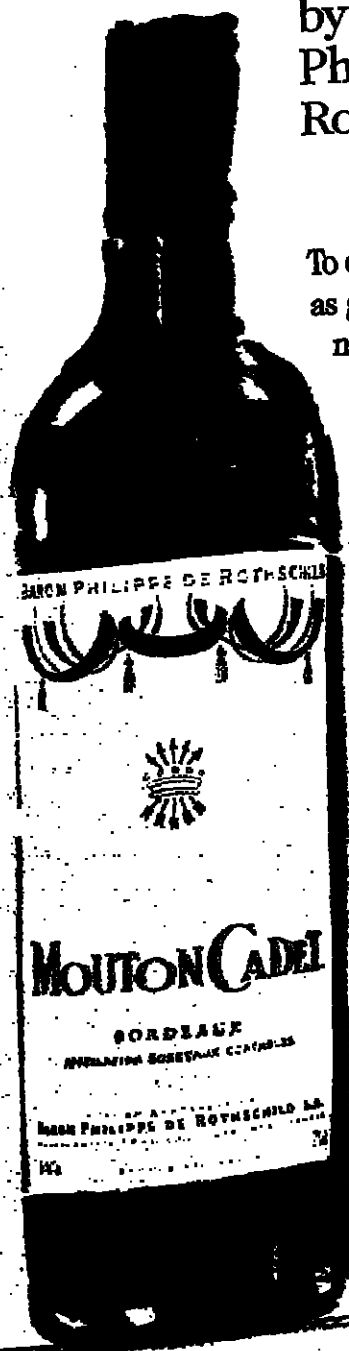
Lord Tebbit left his party's Blackpool conference yesterday after making a speech in which he said that different cultures could not exist comfortably within one society. But before he did so he underlined his remarks and added a further swipe at his party leader.

Mr Hague should not have sent a message of support to this year's gay pride march, he said. "If I had been leader of the Conservative Party I would not have done so, because I think it is not particularly compatible with our family values."

He denied that he was opposed to the notion of cultural change and integration, adding: "What I am saying is that we must see if we can find a way in which Muslims can be truly British." — Fran Abrams

L'Art de l'Assemblage

by Baron
Philippe de
Rothschild



To create wine as good as this you need a tongue like a tuning fork.

To enjoy it, all you need is a corkscrew and a friend.

MOUTON CADET
Fine vintage wine from Bordeaux

This is what your grandson could look like if you have diabetic retinopathy, a common cause of sight loss. Early detection of eye disease is crucial, but there aren't always warning signs. You may not know there's a problem until it's too late. That's why the Royal National Institute for the Blind (RNIB) recommends you have an eye health test at your optician at least once every two years, however old you are. It can make all the difference in the long run. If you know someone with a sight problem, RNIB can help. For more information or RNIB's free eye health leaflet, please call 0345 669 999.



Royal National Institute for the Blind RNIB
Charity Registration Number 229227

Immunity promised to witnesses over Lawrence killing

A long-awaited public inquiry into the race killing of black student Stephen Lawrence held its first sitting yesterday. Jason Bennett, Crime Correspondent, was there to hear the terms of reference.

Evidence given at the public inquiry into the killing of Stephen Lawrence, 18, in 1993, including any testimonies by his killers, cannot be used in a criminal prosecution, the inquiry chairman announced yesterday.

Sir William Macpherson of Cluys, who is heading the inquiry, disclosed at the preliminary hearing in Woolwich, south-east London, yesterday that as with other similar public investigations no evidence, either written or spoken, can be used against the witness in any criminal proceedings. In some extreme cases witnesses may also be allowed to remain anonymous. The inquiry has been given powers to summon any person or obtain any documents. Refusal to appear before the inquiry could lead to imprisonment.

Sir William said: "I should stress that this inquiry does not involve litigation or claims made between parties. Nor will the inquiry be a trial or retrial of any person or persons."

He added that the inquiry would be "inquisitorial" and involve some brief cross-examinations. An advertising campaign asking for witnesses to give evidence will be launched in the next few weeks. The offer of immunity for statements provided during the hearing and anonymity for some witnesses is aimed at encouraging more people to come forward to help break the apparent "wall of silence" surrounding the case.

The inquiry, which was adjourned until next February so that police reports and further evidence can be collated, was ordered by Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, to examine the circumstances surrounding the killing and to consider what lessons can be learned for future investigations and prosecutions of racially motivated crimes.

As with previous public inquiries, the evidence provided by witnesses cannot be used to bring criminal charges against them unless they are found to have lied. The decision to give

immunity has been authorised by the Attorney-General. However, information or a confession obtained outside the hearing could be used in a prosecution.

There is almost no chance now of a successful conviction against the five white youths who stabbed Stephen, 18, to death at a bus stop in Eltham, south-east London, in 1993, according to Chris Boothman, head of law at the Commission Racial Equality.

An unsuccessful private prosecution was brought against five white youths by the Lawrence family. The youths were branded "murderers" by national newspapers after they refused to give evidence at an inquest which found that Stephen had been unlawfully killed during an unprovoked racist attack.

Mr Boothman, at the hearing yesterday, said: "Realistically no one is going to be prosecuted for this crime and that's not much of an issue now there's been the failed prosecutions. We should be looking to make sure that this does not happen to any other families."

Also speaking at the hearing, Stephen's father, Neville Lawrence, said: "I'm pleased to see they have granted im-



Seeking truth: Stephen's father, Neville Lawrence, and aunt, Cheryl Slowly, at Woolwich town hall after yesterday's hearing Photograph: David Rose

munity to anyone who wants to come forward and give evidence. Perhaps now we might get to the bottom of what happened."

Imran Khan, the family solicitor, added: "There's been a wall of silence around this particular murder, or that's what's claimed."

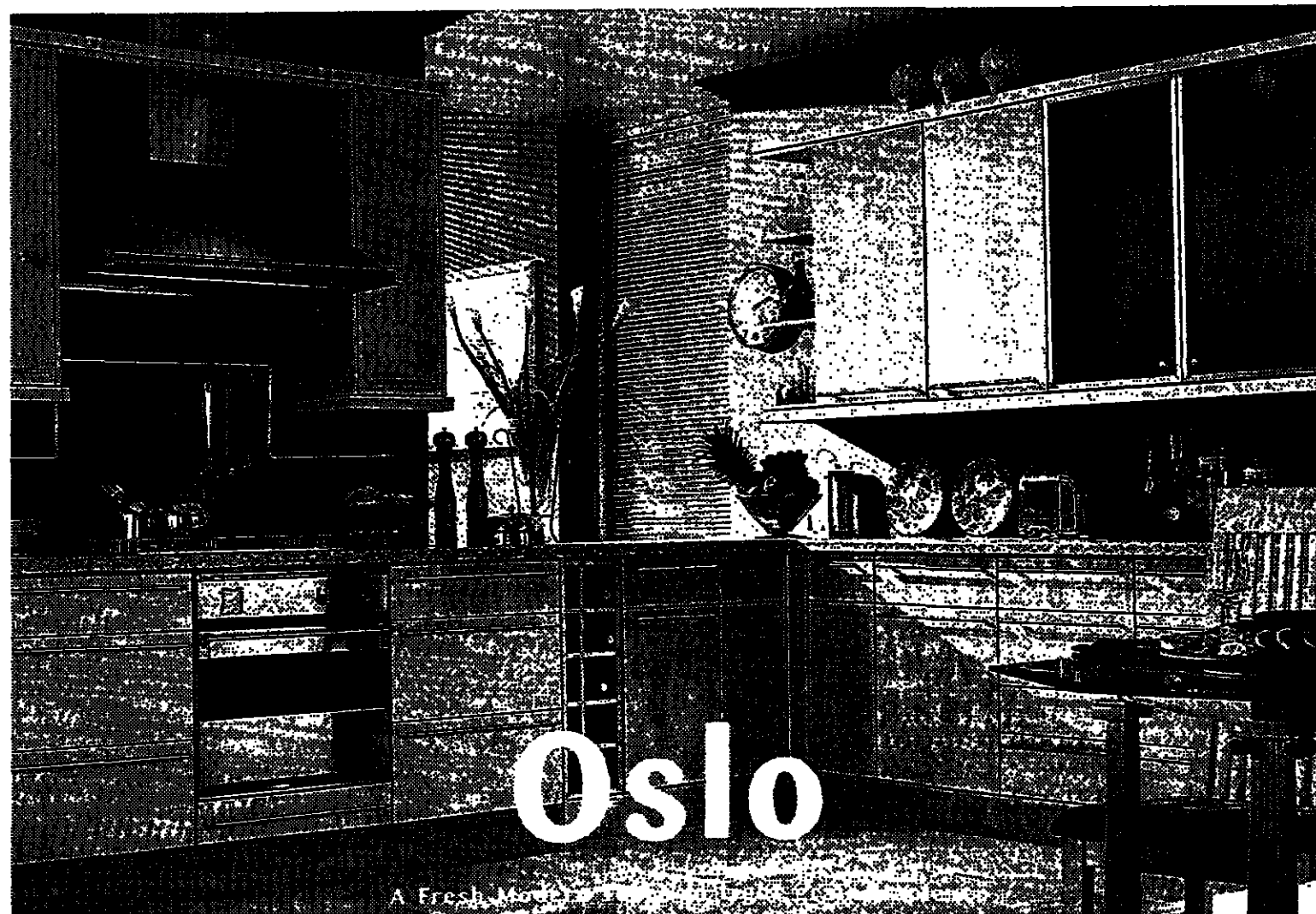
"I hope that immunity by this inquiry will change that. The family feels that now for the first time people perhaps may come forward and shed


some light on what happened four years ago."

The inquiry will not start until the beginning of February when an investigation by


Kent Police into the Metropolitan Police's handling of the affair will be completed, along with a separate inquiry by the Police Complaints Authority.

HALF PRICE AUTUMN SALE



The latest looks in kitchens and bedrooms have just become much more affordable! Right now, in the Magnet Half Price Autumn Sale, all cabinets in 50 ranges have been reduced in price, most by 50%. There are also offers on  and Whirlpool appliances. So, for all the choice you need, simply visit your local Magnet showroom right away!

Free Dishwasher
ADG710 worth £599.99 (RRP) when you spend £3500 or more excluding installation. Ask in store for details.

 and Whirlpool Choose from the wide range of top brand appliances for cooking, refrigeration and laundry. Designs and technology to complement kitchens of all styles, from contemporary stainless steel to traditional coloured appliances. Many at special promotional prices. Ask in store for details.

Magnet
Food for thought

There's so much to choose from at Magnet including an introductory offer on Oslo colour options. For your nearest showroom call **FREEPAGES 0800 132 132**

Opening hours: Monday to Saturday 8.00-5.00. Selected branches open until 8.00 on Thursday and 10.00-4.00 on Sunday. Check each branch for details. Discounts are off prices charged between 26th August and 24th September 1997.

IND 73

How dandruff could help to collar a criminal

Criminals with dry skin or itchy scalp should look for a new profession: scientists can now build a DNA 'fingerprint', from a single speck of dandruff. Esther Leach reports on how the breakthrough follows two years of work.

It is now possible to use a single cell to confirm a person's unique genetic "fingerprint", according to Dr Ian Findlay, a Leeds pathologist. Presently, forensic scientists need at least 500 cells to generate a DNA profile detailed enough to stand up in court.

Dr Findlay said: "A human cell left on a cigarette butt, a licked stamp or a single sperm can lead to the identity of a suspected criminal. The breakthrough made with the use of computer enhancements of DNA markers will revolutionise forensic science and crime detection. It means even a smudged fingerprint which

would normally be of no use to police in the hunt for a criminal suspect can be analysed to obtain a DNA profile."

"In the case of multiple rape, for example, each individual involved can be identified even if the cells are mixed together. Cells left on clothing, even if it has been washed, can be examined and DNA identification still be made using this technique."

"It is possible to conceive of there being no scientific barrier to the detection of crime. There is more work to be done to perfect the technique but this is the breakthrough we have been waiting for."

The development, reported today in the science journal *Nature*, follows two years of research at the University of Leeds, which has been working closely with Birmingham Forensic Science Service.

A single cell is chosen, and using a technique called Short Tandem Repeat Profiling, which focuses on repeated sequences of combinations of the four DNA "bases" (known as A, T, C and G) within indi-

viduals' genes. These "tandem repeats" are inherited and so are strongly tied to a person's heritage. Using computer enhancement reveals the markers which identify an individual's unique genetic make-up.

Results can be available within six hours, giving six "markers" from the DNA, as well as the person's sex. The chance of two unrelated people sharing the same markers and sex is 100 million to 1. British courts will accept DNA evidence with four markers.

In tests so far, the six set of markers can be identified in 50 per cent of single cell samples. Four markers can be identified in another 14 per cent of the samples.

Dr Findlay hopes forensic scientists will be using the technique within a couple of years. A spokesman for the Forensic Science Service, which pioneered the use of DNA profiling, and set up the world's first national criminal intelligence DNA database, said: "This is a crucial breakthrough. It means we can take evidence from smaller samples than ever before."

STAY IN TOUCH • STAY IN POCKET



- ▶ NO CONTRACT
- ▶ NO MONTHLY BILLS EVER
- ▶ NO CONNECTION CHARGES
- ▶ JUST BUY THE PAGER

PAGEONE MINICALL PAGERS

Pagers from £39.99 available at The Link, Dixons, Currys Superstores, Tandy, Argus, Index, John Lewis Partnership and other PageOne authorised dealers.

For further information FreeCall **0500 505 505**

هكذا من الأمل

هكذا من الأصل

NT
AY
197

LOW PRICES EVERYDAY
5000 COMPUTER PRODUCTS

BUSINESS CENTRE



PC WORLD

THE COMPUTER SUPERSTORE

TRAINING CENTRE



BUSINESS SOFTWARE

OFFICE PACKAGES SAVE UP TO £200

MICROSOFT OFFICE 97 Small Business Edition Upgrade.
Specifically designed to meet the needs of small businesses.

FREE
Dun & Bradstreet Market Place UK (worth £99)

£179

MICROSOFT WINDOWS 95 3-IN-1 VALUE PACK Was £89	£79	MICROSOFT OFFICE 97 Upgrade	£199
MICROSOFT HOME ESSENTIALS 97 TSP £322.97	£99	MICROSOFT OFFICE 97 PROFESSIONAL Upgrade	£279
MICROSOFT WORKS 4	£99	MICROSOFT NT WORKSTATION v4	£299
COREL WORDPERFECT SUITE 6 NEW Upgrade Full Product	£129 £249	MICROSOFT OFFICE 97 PROFESSIONAL Upgrade & mouse	£299

NO.1 CHOICE FOR SOFTWARE

ALL THE LATEST RELEASES

EDUCATIONAL SOFTWARE

CHILDREN'S GAMES/SOFTWARE

HERCULES PRINT STUDIO
Create your own stationery using over 100 character images from Disney's newest film.

£29.99

LEGO ISLAND
3D action adventure game set in a magical Legoworld.

FREE PENCIL CASE

£29.99

PINGU Was £24.99	£19.99	NODDY - THE MAGIC OF TOYTOWN Was £24.99	£19.99
ANIMALS OF FARTHING WOOD Was £29.99	£19.99	FUN SCHOOL QUAD PACK	£29.99
FUN SCHOOL 6	£29.99	HERCULES ANIMATED STORYBOOK	£34.99

VOICE RECOGNITION SAVE UP TO £20

FINANCE SAVE UP TO £20

IBM VIAVOICE
ViaVoice is a breakthrough in voice dictation technology which allows you to speak naturally to your computer without pausing between words. Speak at speeds of up to 140 words per minute.

NEW £99

SAGE INSTANT ACCOUNTS v4
Accounts software. Ideal for small businesses. Was £99.

SAVE £20 £79

IBM VOICE TYPE SIMPLY SPEAKING Was £44.50 **£39.50**

IBM VOICE TYPE GOLD Was £99 **£79**

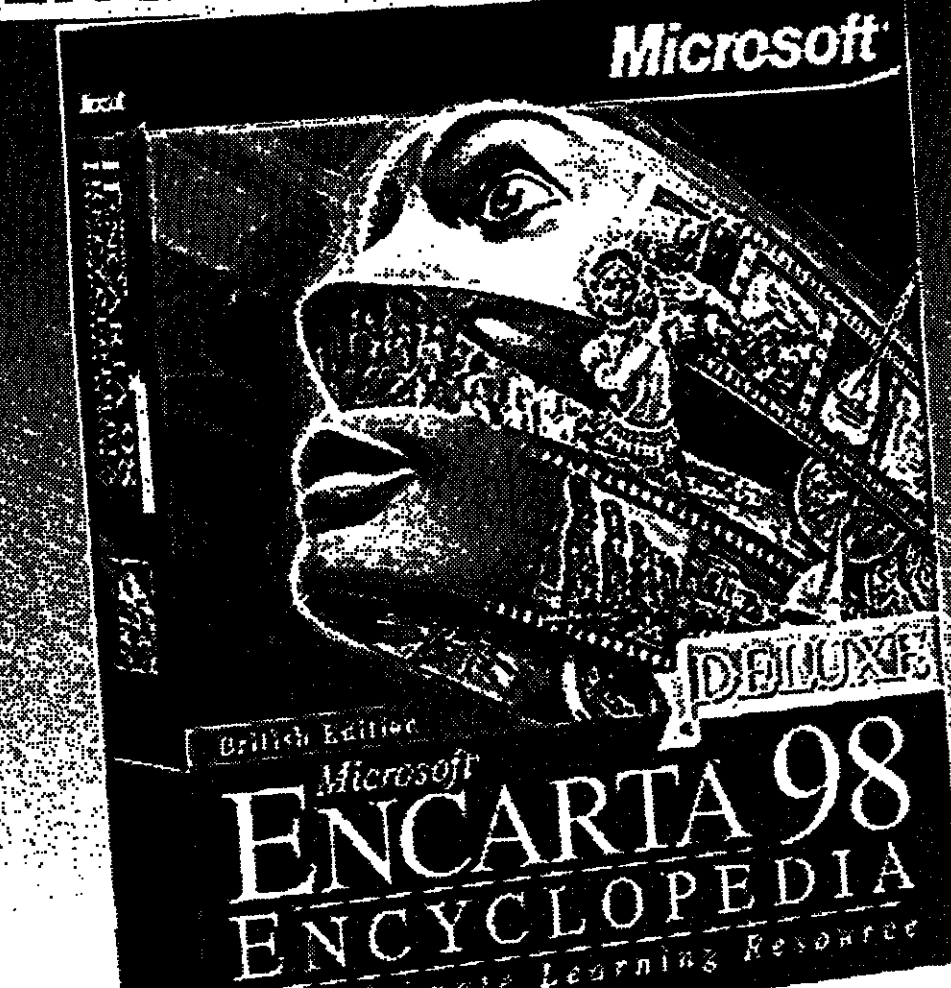
DRAGON DICTATE SOLO £79

MICROSOFT MONEY 97 £29.99

QUICKEN v6 DELUXE Was £59 **£49**

SAGE INSTANT PAYROLL v4 Was £99 **£79**

MICROSOFT ENCARTA 98 OUT TODAY



ENCARTA 98 DELUXE
The world's leading multimedia Encyclopedia raises its standards on 3 CDs. Edited in the UK, features new Research Organiser, multimedia collages, guest essays and virtual tours.

FREE £20 cash back for existing customers.

OUT TODAY £79

MUSIC

MUSIC TIME DELUXE
The easy way to write, play and print music. Free Commodore Keyboard worth £49.99.

£79

GUITAR VOLUME 1	£19.99	HOUSE & DANCE	£19.99
MUSIC MAGIC 2	£29.99	MUSIC STUDIO	£29.99
GUITAR HITS VOLUME 2	£39.99	GUITAR METHOD	£49.99
DIGITAL ORCHESTRA	£129.95	SOUND STUDIO GOLD	£149

ROUTE PLANNER

MICROSOFT AUTOROUTE EXPRESS 98 GB
Makes it easy to organise business trips and plan family holidays, to over 65,000 destinations across Great Britain.

NEW £59

AA STREETMASTER LONDON £49.99

MICROSOFT AUTO EXPRESS 98 EUROPE £59

FAMILY & HEALTH

BMA FAMILY HEALTH ENCYCLOPEDIA
Look after the health of your family with this superb encyclopedia.

£29.99

DR HILARY JONES £19.99

FAMILY TREE £39.99

PHOTO IMAGING

BRODERBUND 40,000 CLICK ART £29.99

BRODERBUND 65,000 CLICK ART £39.99

KAI'S PHOTO SOAP **NEW** £39.99

KAI'S POWER GOO £39.99

COREL PRINT & PHOTO HOUSE £39.99

MICROSOFT PICTURE IT £49.99

BRODERBUND LIVEPIX £49.99

BRODERBUND 125,000 CLICK ART £49.99

COREL DRAW v6 £89

MGI PHOTO SUITE
The easiest way to edit, organise and be creative with your photos.

NEW £49.99

UTILITIES

NORTON ANTI-VIRUS 2 PLUS UTILITIES 2
The best selling Anti-Virus and Utilities titles all packaged into one superb bundle. Total Separate Selling Price £118.99.

HALF PRICE £59

FIRST AID 97 Was £34.99 **£19.99**

FIRST AID 97 3.1 PCS Was £34.99 **£24.99**

MCALFEY VIRUS SCAN 3 Electronic update FREE - £15 Dixons Vouchers **£29.99**

DOCTOR SOLOMONS HOME GUARD **NEW** £29.99

FIRST AID 97 DELUXE Was £39.99 **£34.99**

MCALFEY VIRUS SCAN 3 Quarterly update. Was £49.99 **£39.99**

PROGRAMMING

MICROSOFT VISUAL BASIC 3 LEARNING
Learning Visual Basic can be quick and easy.

NEW £79

MICROSOFT VISUAL J++ 1.1 PRO £79

BORLAND C++ BUILDER STANDARD £79

MICROSOFT VISUAL C++ LEARNING £79

BORLAND DELPHI 3 £89

MICROSOFT VISUAL BASIC 3 PRO Upgrade **£229**

MICROSOFT VISUAL STUDIO 97 Upgrade **£429**

ENCARTA 98 ENCYCLOPEDIA DELUXE OUT TODAY

ENCARTA 98 ENCYCLOPEDIA STANDARD
Specially designed, edited and updated in the UK. Rich multimedia features, unique educational tools and expanded content for 1998 make this an up-to-date and comprehensive reference source for the whole family.

ENCARTA 98 WORLD ATLAS
The most comprehensive World Atlas ever created, with 4 times the detail of any atlas. Geography comes to life with print maps, thousands of images from around the world plus social economic indicators, among many other features.

OUT TODAY £49.99

GAMES SOFTWARE

MICROSOFT FLIGHT SIMULATOR 98
The most realistic, graphically advanced flight simulator ever, with a global database containing breathtaking scenery, 3000 different airports and a fleet of challenging aircraft.

NEW £39.99

RED ALERT MISSION DISK 2: THE AFTERMATH	£14.99	7TH LEGION	£29.99
X WING & REBEL ASSAULT	£14.99	LITTLE BIG ADVENTURE 2	£29.99
INTERNATIONAL RALLY CHAMPIONSHIP	NEW £29.99	DUNGEON KEEPER	£29.99
HEXEN 2 Defeat the darker generals.	NEW £29.99	SONIC 3D	£29.99
DARK REIGN Strategic battle.	NEW £29.99	PERFECT ASSASSIN	£29.99
CONQUEST EARTH Fight for the Earth or Jupiter.	NEW £29.99	DARK COLONY	£29.99
CONSTRUCTOR Aim to control a city.	NEW £29.99	THEME HOSPITAL	£29.99
TOTAL ANNIHILATION Revolutionary real-time war game featuring a giant 3D environment plus a huge array of weapons and vehicles including amphibious tanks perfect for surprise attacks!	NEW £29.99	FIFA SOCCER MANAGER	£29.99
		GRAND PRIX 2	£29.99
		BROKEN SWORD 2	£34.99

UNBEATABLE SERVICE

EXPERT ADVICE & AFTER SALES SUPPORT

- Expert staff on hand 7 days a week to help you make the right choice.
- Technical Centre for upgrades, enhancements and installations.
- PC & Software Helpdesk available 24 hours a day.
- Business Centre with dedicated staff.

LOW PRICE PROMISE

We won't be beaten. We promise that if you find the same offer available at a lower price in any other local retail store within 7 days of purchase we will refund the difference - guaranteed providing you produce your receipt and details of where you saw the offer.

PC WORLD THE COMPUTER SUPERSTORE

FOR YOUR NEAREST STORE CALL 0990 464 464

ABERDEEN	GATESHEAD	PETERBOROUGH	LONDON AREA
BIRMINGHAM	GLASGOW	PORTSMOUTH	BRENTFORD
BRIGHTON	HULL	PRESTON	CROYDON
CARDIFF	LEEDS	READING	ENFIELD
CHESTER	LIVERPOOL	SHEFFIELD	GUILDFORD
COVENTRY	MANCHESTER	SLOUGH	LAKEDE
DERBY	MERSEY HILL-LOULEY	SOUTHAMPTON	STAPLES CORNER
DONCASTER	NORTH SHIELDS	SPRUCFIELD	
EAST KILBRIDE	NOTTINGHAM	STOKE	
EDINBURGH		SWINDON	

PRESTON NOW OPEN

RESIDENT EVIL
Escape from a forbidding mansion filled with unstoppable zombies, monstrous spiders, mutant dogs and a host of unknown horrors.

NEW £34.99

هكذا من الأصل

Cairo declares war
on the press

Egypt has launched an unprecedented campaign against the press in Cairo, taking Arab journalists to court for a story that was never published and banning foreign correspondents from reporting attacks on tourists. All this in a country which claims to be a functioning democracy.

"Meet me in court," Magdi Hussein said. And sure enough, when I turned up at the Egyptian ministry of justice's courthouse in the Cairo suburb of Abbasiya, there is the bespectacled and bearded editor of the Islamist *Al-Shaah* newspaper—published twice weekly with a circulation of 130,000—standing in the tiled atrium of Court Number 3, wearing his usual friendly scowl of contempt for authority. He is appealing a libel case brought by Alaa al-Alfi, the son of the interior minister, whom his newspaper has accused of refusing to settle a Cairo hotel bill and then bullying the staff when they demanded payment.

Mr Hussein spends a lot of his time accusing the ruling authorities of corruption. So do other journalists in Cairo. Mr Hussein himself awaits trial on six other hearings, including another libel case for hearing in a criminal court brought by minister Hassan al-Alfi himself—whom Mr Hussein accuses of protecting drug traffickers. Four other writers and a cartoonist on *Al-Shaah* are named in the charge. Minister al-Alfi, needless to say, denies everything. And like Egypt itself, Mr Hussein's court cases drag on without resolution.

Kafka—cliché though it may be to say so—would be at home in Court Number 3. The

ceiling fans slowly turn the sweaty heat high above us while against the wall, 20 handcuffed prisoners stand inside a medieval iron cage, awaiting trial. Lawyers howl pleas at the three docile-looking civilian judges while guards howl at women relatives of the caged men. Above the din, I can just hear one of the minister's two advocates demanding a verdict within hours. Mr Hussein—uncaged—stands before the bench with the same unyielding smile.

It would be pleasant to believe that this is some kind of aberration, a freak deviation from Egypt's much trumpeted (and American-backed) democracy. Alas, no. Only last month, a Cairo court found six journalists from the Saudi-owned Arab daily *Asharq al-Awsat* guilty of libelling

BY ROBERT
FISK

President Hosni Mubarak's two sons, Ala and Gamal, by claiming that both used their father's name for furthering business deals. Five of the reporters escaped imprisonment because they were outside the country but the sixth, an Egyptian, received six months in jail.

Oddly, the supposedly libellous article never appeared—the Egyptians started proceedings on the basis of an advertisement in the paper for a story that was to appear in its sister magazine *Al-Jedida*. It was only after *Asharq* pulped 120,000 copies of the offending magazine, fired two journalists and issued a grovelling apology that the unforgiving Egyptians took the journalists to court. *Asharq*, one of the most prestigious of Arab journals, then closed its Cairo office.

Military prosecutors meanwhile banned reporters from writing about the killing of nine German tourists by gunmen outside the Cairo National Museum last month. The ministry of tourism said journalists had no right to question the official version of the attack on the bus—which states that two rather than five gunmen staged the assault—nor to call it an organised "Islamist terrorist" operation because the principle gunman was "insane". The fact that the principal killer, Saher abu el-Ulla, shouted "Allahu Akbar" (God is great) as he set fire to the bus was ignored.

Even more embarrassing was the fact that Saher abu el-Ulla was responsible for killing two Americans and a Frenchman in 1993 (again crying "Allahu Akbar" and again excused as "insane"). The Egyptians, of course, are frightened that their tourist industry will again collapse if the slaughter of the Germans appears to be political. Potential tourists should not be warned. Hence the ban. Even this report is thus technically in breach of Egyptian law.

Already one major European news organisation has cravenly come to heel and censored all its reports on the attack. International news agencies and television companies are equally fearful that if they breach the censorship law, the Egyptians may close their offices. Thus Cairo bureaux have become hostages to prevent journalists from reporting the story: preservation of the office, it seems, is more important than the truth. "The government also intimidates our Egyptian stringers," a foreign news agency journalist says. "When this happens, our news dries up. So what are we going to cover?"

The independent Cairo-based Middle East Times suffered official punishment on



Censors' target: Reports of the Cairo tourist bus attack, in which nine died, have been banned. Photograph: Norbert Schiller

22nd August when its editor, Thomas Cromwell, was detained at Cairo airport and deported to Athens without explanation. His next editorial, written abroad, was headlined

"a Letter from Exile" and admitted government censorship of the paper.

"It's very difficult to have a free press without real democracy," Magdi Hussein says out-

side Court Number 3. "The government cancelled democracy when they held elections which were unfair and now they refuse to allow us to investigate corruption in high

places. There is a red line and journalists must not cross that red line." But hasn't he done just that, I ask? The grim returns. "That," he says, "is why I'm here now."

MEDIA'S
NADIR

The Arab media is in a sorry state. If it played its most credible role in opposing colonialism in the Middle East, it is now at its nadir—supporting local dictators, censoring its own reports, accepting bribes from the rich and powerful, acting as a mouthpiece for ruthless regimes.

King Hussein, that most "trustworthy" of pro-Western Arab leaders, has recently closed down 13 weekly newspapers, many of them Islamist. Lebanon's 16 freelance television stations have been cut to four—all owned by prominent members of the Lebanese government. In Syria, Jordan, Iraq, Sudan, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Oman, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia, criticism of the head of state is seen as treachery.

In Tripoli, Cairo, Algiers (where more than 50 journalists have been killed by Islamists), Tunis and capitals of the Gulf states, journalists are imprisoned for the mildest criticism. In Lebanon—where the press is still comparatively free—and Jordan and Palestine, writers have been locked up. The Saudi-owned international Arab press—especially *Al-Hayat* and *Asharq al-Awsat*—have some freedom.

But the Saudi-owned Orbit channel brought about the collapse of BBC's Arabic television service over a programme about the kingdom.

Israel cannot be left out of the equation. Local censorship means that most accounts of the attempted murder by Mossad of a Hamas leader in Amman are preceded by the words "foreign media are reporting..."

Yosef Lapid, an Israeli journalist, this week described the censorship as "an infantile game"—but at least he could say it.

BRITAIN'S No1 CHOICE FOR PRINTERS



HP DESKJET COLOUR
• Professional series colour printer
• Premium results on a wide variety of paper
• Rich colours and sharp blacks with new precision technology
• Fast output 6.5 ppm black and 4ppm colour
MODEL HP2600

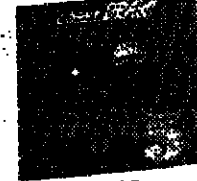


SAVE £20
£159

HP DESKJET
• Incredible Printer, Incredible Value
• Outstanding Colour and Black Prints on Plain Paper
• Prints on Wide Media Range
• Superb Output Quality at an Exceptional Price
WAS £179 MODEL HP2700

EXCLUSIVE COREL BUNDLE

FREE With every HP, Canon & Epson Printer
"CorelDRAW™ 5 (Special Limited Edition)" & Corel Print & PhotoHouse™ Software



CorelDRAW™ 5
Corel PHOTO-Paint™
CorelDRAW™ 5
CorelDRAW™ 5
CorelDRAW™ 5
CorelDRAW™ 5



Print & PhotoHouse™
Includes:
• Corel Print House™ 2
• Corel Photo House™ 1
• 1,000 Ready-to-print samples
• Best selection of clip art, fonts & photos
• On-line support

Byte

The Computer Superstore

YOU CAN'T BUY BETTER

SEE US ON THE INTERNET <http://www.byte.co.uk>

60 STORES NATIONWIDE. FOR YOUR NEAREST STORE, OR TO ORDER CALL
> 0990 22 55 99

All prices include VAT at 17.5%. All prices correct at time of going to press. If not, all prices are approximate. Prices are subject to change without prior notice. All offers subject to availability.

How much would it cost to replace your wife?

Please don't get us wrong. We're not suggesting you trade your partner in. Just that you think about the financial consequences of losing her. Whilst everyone's situation is different, recent research shows that on average it costs £312.79 a week to pay someone to do all the cooking, cleaning and childcare handled by a parent who stays at home.

That's £16,265* a year you'd have to find if the unthinkable happened.

You could cope with our Family Protection Plan. For the monthly equivalent of just 20p a day, it could provide £68,432 to help secure your family's financial future.

Call us now for a quote for your partner and yourself, or contact your financial adviser.

- THE CASH LUMP SUM IS PAID IF YOU DIE
- THE CASH LUMP SUM IS PAID IF YOU BECOME ELIGIBLE FOR TERMINAL ILLNESS BENEFIT
- YOU DECIDE HOW MUCH COVER YOU WANT
- YOU DECIDE HOW LONG YOU WANT COVER FOR
- MONTHLY PREMIUM ALWAYS STAYS THE SAME

*Source: Legal & General 1996 Value of a Mum Survey

FREE LEGAL & GENERAL KIDS UMBRELLA
When your application is successful, your first premium will be £1.00.

CALL FREE NOW FOR YOUR INSTANT PERSONAL QUOTE:

0500 33 66 66

QUOTING REFERENCE NUMBER B36/DJ01

Lines are open from 9am, Monday to Friday and 9am to 5pm Saturday and Sunday. For your protection, calls on this number will usually be recorded and randomly monitored. Further information on Legal & General products is available on our Website <http://www.legal-and-general.co.uk>. Now and then, we may tell you about other products or services offered by the Legal & General Group of companies that we believe may be of interest to you. If you would prefer not to receive this carefully selected information, please contact us at the address below. Legal & General Direct Limited is a representative only of the Legal & General marketing group, members of which are regulated by the Personal Investment Authority. Legal & General Direct Limited, Registered in England No. 2702080 Registered Office: Temple Court, 11 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4N 4TE.

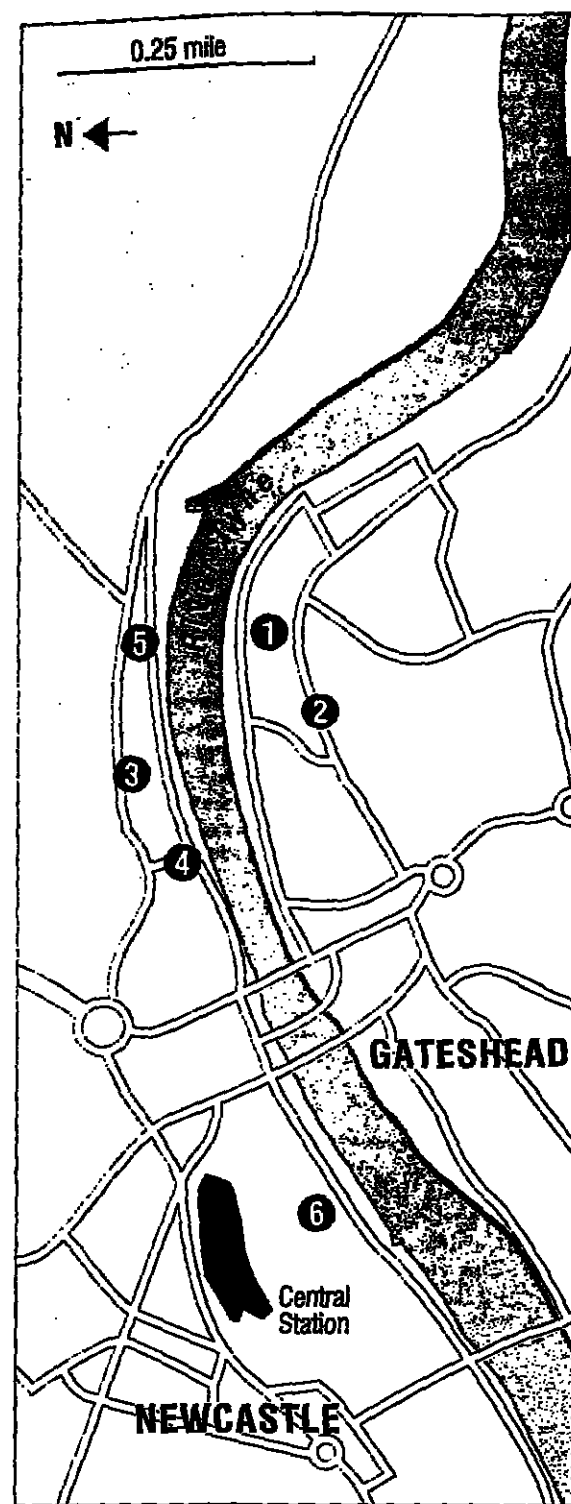
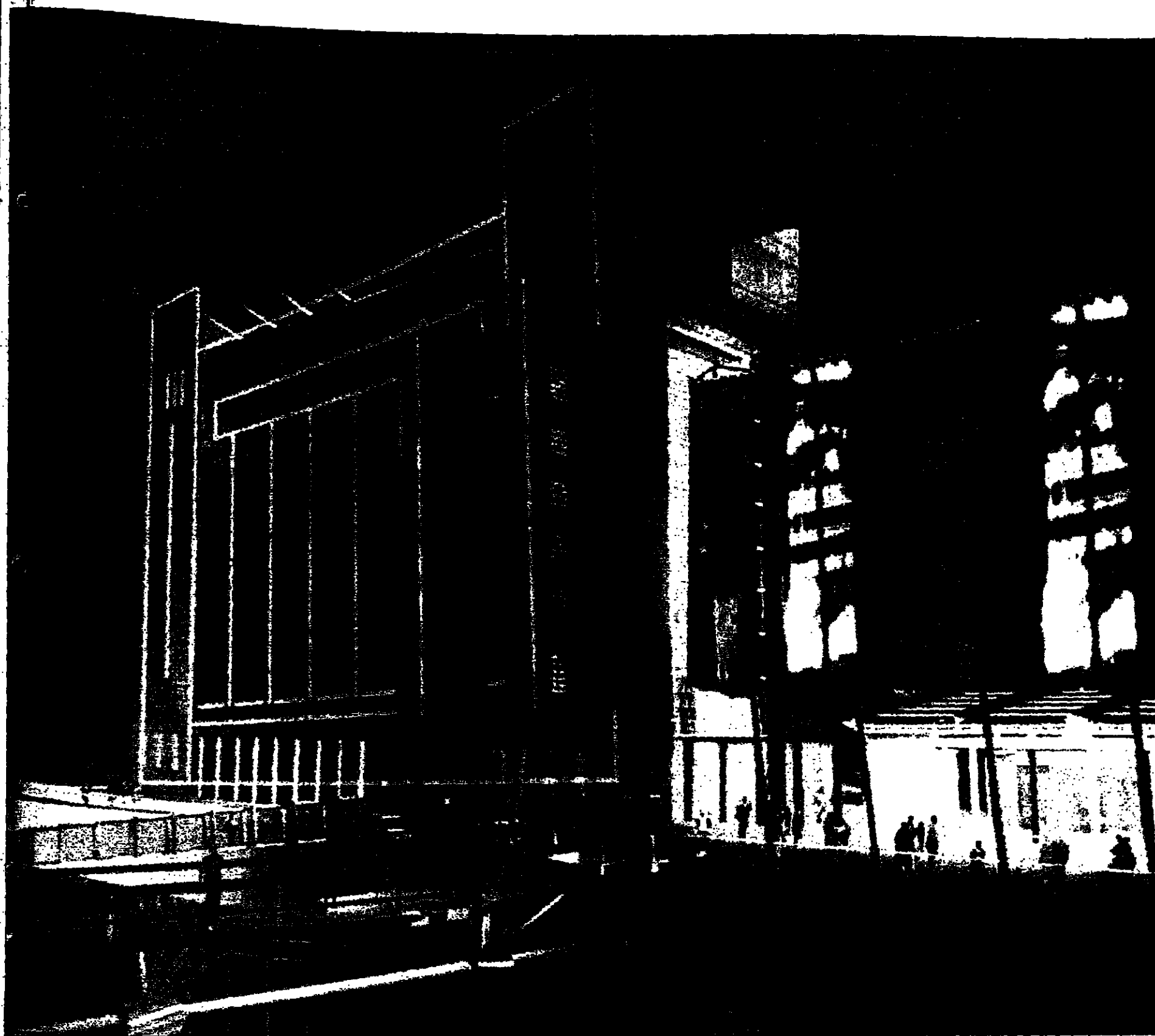
Post to: Legal & General, FREEPOST (SWC 0467), Canlis, CFI 1YW. Please send me, without obligation, an information pack on The Legal & General Family Protection Plan and my personal quotation.

Surname (Mr/Mrs/Ms/Ms) _____ Forename(s) _____
Address _____ Postcode _____
Tel No. home _____ Tel No. work _____
Date of birth _____ I am a smoker ☐ non-smoker ☐
Occupation _____ Marital Status _____
Cover required £ _____ Term required _____ years (Minimum 2 years) Ref B36/DJ01



trust us to deliver

Pursuits of the Millennium – the divine side of Tyneside



1 Baltic Flour Mills (main pic) get a facelift by Ellis Williams; 2 Regional Music Centre by Norman Foster & Partners, in concept stage; 3 Steel double-arched footbridge opens like a visor; 4 Dickinson Dees, opens Piers Gough and CZWG; 5 The Malmesbury hotel, opens soon; 6 Terry Farrell's International Centre for Life

Face-to-face across the river Tyne, two towns sink in dark post-industrial decline – shipping, sans mines, sans industry, sans everything. The state of Newcastle and Gateshead was sad to behold. Then comes the renaissance, already well advanced. If you are in search of exciting architectural renewal, as Nanie Niesewand, look north east

The North East of Britain is changing. If you're at all interested in art and architecture, alone town planning in the 21st century. Gateshead and Newcastle, the two towns which face each other across the river Tyne, are becoming just about the most exciting places in Britain. For decades they were impoverished, beleaguered and decaying. But their successful effort to seize lottery money and Arts Council funding has transformed redundant factories and warehouses into housing, hotels and galleries.

Rivals in their need to give their citizens a future in the next century, Newcastle has brought its heart to the inner city, with transport and housing and two universities, while Gateshead has gone for culture. When arts funding was cut in the early 80s, Gateshead kept their programme, using the Gateshead Garden Festival to promote contemporary sculpture, and started their own art collection.

The rise from the ashes of post-industrial collapse has been dramatic. New business and the industrial parks created with EU grants – Siemens, IBM and Nissan – Newcastle is now the fifth best retail centre in Britain. The fortunes of the cities seem to have turned round, so did the council. It was time to put back money into the community, to create a mile-long sculpture along the river, an arts centre and a regional centre for music, designed by Norman Foster, primarily for the North-Sinfonia. The Gateshead

Council architect John Devlin is clear about the ground plans: "We don't want the South Bank of London happening here. With its mish-mash of buildings, windswept squares and parcelled-up land all competing with each other in inharmonious styles."

A beautiful bridge by Chris Wilkinson Architects is proposed, to link Newcastle Quayside to the international arts complex planned in the old Baltic Flour Mills on the other side of the Tyne in Gateshead. The bridge has to be able to rise when ships pass. Architects Chris Wilkinson and Jim Eyre found inspiration in motor cycle helmets – and in particular the pivots that swing the visor upwards.

These springing points, like the helmet visor points, allow two arches to pivot. One pulls down and locks in place across

Baltic Flour Mills conversion, for which the Millennium Commission granted £33.4m; £45-£55 million for the music centre next door for which they have had just £1.5 million Arts Council funding to develop the project and £7.5 million for the bridge.

But they are building on their encounter with an angel. Anthony Gormley's steel angel sculpture, as tall as four double-decker buses, weighing 200 tons with a wing span nearly as big as a jumbo jet. It will be erected in sections between now and Christmas at the point where the A1 road meets Gateshead.

"If it hadn't been for the angel," says Peter Stark of Gateshead Council, "none of this funding for the arts would have come our way. The council proved we could deliver the angel on time, to budget, in the

proud of Gormley, though they are not quite at one. There was a proposal to name the Angel of the North "Princess Diana". No, said Gormley. Anyway, it's an androgynous angel.

Newcastle's housing policy is to transmute the decaying factories, shops and warehouses into reasonably priced, high quality housing with urban regeneration grants from the Government agency, English Partnership. Its main shopping street has resembled a building site for nine months as the city council embarked upon a project to turn it into the most attractive pedestrian precinct and to convert abandoned buildings into shops with apartments.

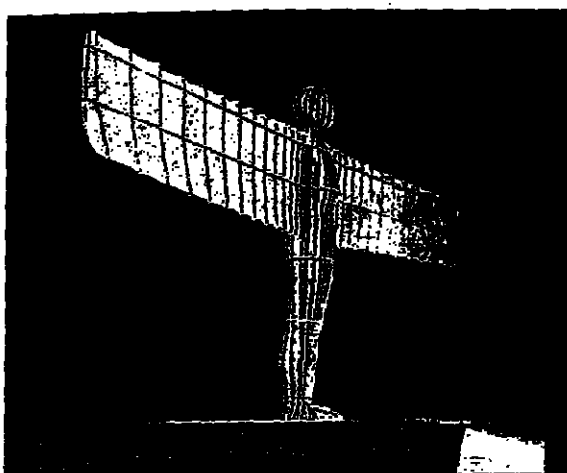
The Granger Estate, a 75 mile inner city area, gets a £40 million investment. Nobody ever envisaged the Gillette razor factory being on the cutting edge of new housing but, cleaned up, given a new roof and light wells all along the loading bay, it had 300 applications for 63 apartments. Now the style-conscious, cosmopolitan Malmesbury hotel opens in the old Co-op on the Quayside. The biggest millennium project planned as a crowd puller by Newcastle who have been relatively restrained in making millennium monuments, is the International Centre for Life. At this genetics institute in Terry Farrell's new building you can say hello to Dolly, the cloned sheep and other curiosities.

As Jim Daly, the RIBA architect who showed me around says: "Newcastle's time has come at last. We saw it happening to Liverpool and Manchester and now it's our turn." The neon-lit sculpture by Richard Wilson on the façades of the Baltic Mill conversion, called "This Place is Jumping", says it all.

If David Howell, or Lord Howell of Guildford, is to be believed, one day the ships will return as well. Baltic Flour Mills refers to the shipping trade from Baltic ports east to west. Now that the Russians have opened up trade, he sees Newcastle as being strategically placed to benefit all over again. If the big ships ever do come back here, the Millennium bridge will be there to open for them.

face of opposition." First, the Gateshead rate payers didn't want the angel because they didn't like it. Then they didn't want it because they thought Millennium money would be better spent on hospitals and schools, even though lottery money is specifically targeted for arts programmes. The council pointed out that if they didn't apply they would lose out to another region.

Anyway, Gormley grew on them. When he showed "The Field", 40,000 tiny terracotta sculptures arranged for the Visual Arts of the North programme last year, 25,000 people came to see it. Perhaps Gateshead is learning to be



The Angel of the North

the water to form the deck. The other, a 45 metre high steel parabola of thin suspension rods, supports it and echoes the graceful curves of Stephenson's 1845 High Level Bridge and the 1929 Mou Hay and Anderson Tyne Bridge.

The Millennium Commission are meeting this month to discuss its funding, along with Norman Foster's Millennium Bridge from St Pauls to Bankside across the Thames. They have £250 million of lottery money to give away in this third phase, but projects bidding for over £80 million.

Gateshead Council are still seeking a lot of sponsorship. They needed £46m for the

THE INDEPENDENT

french connection
special offer

15% off
french connection

Simply cut out the voucher below, take it to your nearest French Connection store and you will receive 15 per cent off your purchases. The offer runs everyday until Saturday 11 October 1997. Look out for the vouchers in The Independent and Independent on Sunday.

The Independent / French Connection 15% Discount Voucher

Name

Address

Postcode

Terms and Conditions:
This voucher entitles you to 15% off everything available at French Connection Stores. All stock is subject to availability. This offer is only available at the participating stores listed below. The offer is available from Saturday 27 September 1997 until Saturday 11 October 1997 inclusive. This voucher may not be used in conjunction with any other offer. The vouchers cannot be used on sale items. Promoter: French Connection, 60-66 Great Portland Street, London W1.

Participating stores

249 Regent Street, London W1, 0171-493 3124; 140 Kings Road, London SW3, 0171-225 3302; 99 Long Acre, London WC2, 0171-379 6560; 11 James Street, London WC2, 0171-836 0522; 10 Argyll Street, London W1, 0171-287 2046; 57 Brompton Road, London SW3, 0171-589 5560; 170 Kensington High Street, London W8, 0171-937 4665; Fenwick, New Bond Street, London W1, 0171-629 9161; Spinnaker, 40 Duke Street, London W1, 0171-318 3074; 29 Hampstead High Street, London NW4, 0171-794 1115; 26 East Street, Brighton BN1 2JZ 727 117; 16 Market Hill, Cambridge CB2 3RQ, 01223-311 966; 9 Eden Walk, Kingston, 0181-549 5789; 7 The Glades, Brentley, 0181-466 7617; Ricmans, St Georges Lane, Canterbury CT2 766 866; 9 New Broadmead, Bristol 01179-268 108; 14-16 St. Ann Street, Manchester 0161-835 1727; 53 Albion Street, Leeds 01132-435 509; 39 Queen Street, Oxford 01865-243 835; 14 Cony Street, York 01904-611 991; Unit 40, Queens Arcade, Cardiff 01222-399 109; 25 Bridge Street, Chester 01244-313 130; 102-103 Harlequin Shopping Center, Watford 01923-250533; 107 Union Street, Glasgow 0141-248 7745; 70 George Street, Edinburgh 01220 1276.

It may be good old fashioned witchcraft, but it works

Researchers are claiming that a stressful job can cause miscarriage; there may be some truth in it. But there is an antidote, says Celia Dodd. It's called tender loving care.

"Go-getters who put their unborn babies at risk." "Overtime in stressful job triples miscarriage risk." So screamed the headlines this summer, announcing the latest research on miscarriage from the University of California which found that lawyers who worked a 45-hour week were three times more likely to have suffered a miscarriage than those who worked less than 35 hours. The key factor, it appeared, was stress.

What are pregnant women – and miscarriage sufferers in particular – to make of this? Should they hand in their notice? Work to rule? Since neither option is realistic or desirable it's reassuring to learn that the findings have been greeted with cautious scepticism by British researchers.

Professor James Walker, who runs the recurrent miscarriage clinic at St James's Hospital in Leeds, says "It's too simplistic to say that women who are worried about miscarriage should cut down the stress in their lives. Obviously if they're extra stressed in their job or private life that may be a factor. But miscarriage can cause a lot of problems at work and within marriages, and it's difficult to know how much is due to the stress of the job and how much is due to the stress of the problem."

One in four women miscarry at least once. One in 100 women suffer three or more miscarriages. It is rarely possible to find a cause, particularly for the most common miscarriages which occur before 14 weeks (one in six pregnancies).

Even with miscarriages between 14 and 24 weeks (only one in 50 pregnancies) a specific cause is not always found.

Yet inevitably women want to find a reason and too often they feel it's their fault – for having had too much wine, tobacco, or sex, for taking too many, or too few vitamins, for exercising too much or too little (the recent upsurge of interest in pre-conception planning has done much to inflame all this guilt). It's tempting to dismiss the California research as yet another way of making women feel they're to blame.

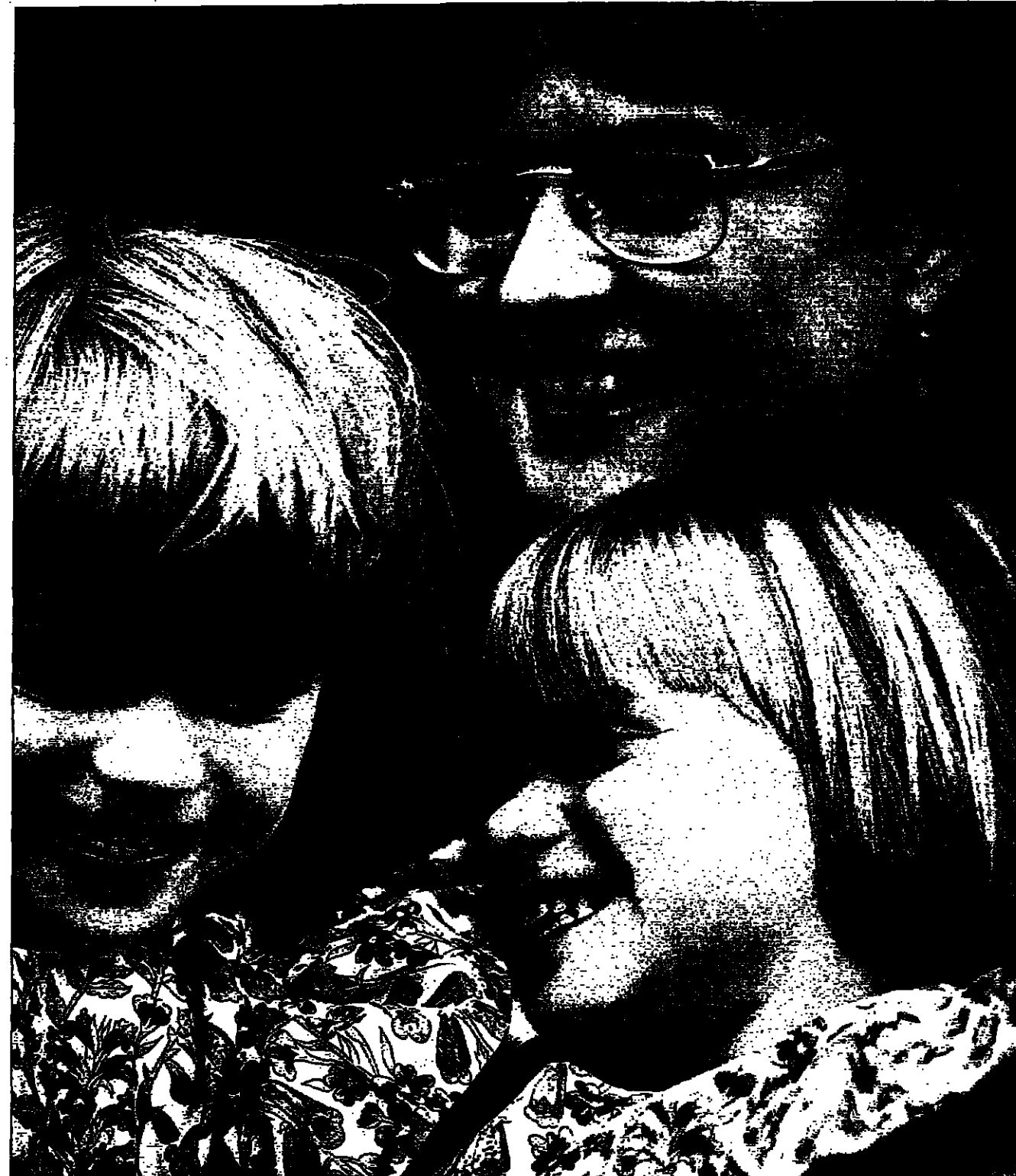
Yet stress – the high anxiety caused by a previous miscarriage rather than the pressure of a high-powered job – is increasingly acknowledged as a possible contributing factor. Professor Walker says: "Women who miscarry and women who start bleeding in early pregnancy have very high anxiety levels. Most of the care we have set up here is related to reducing that stress as much as we can. The higher the level of psychological support you can give a woman before and in the early stages of any pregnancy subsequent to miscarriage, the lower the chances of another miscarriage occurring. They require a huge amount of TLC – totally non-medical, unproven witchcraft basically – but it's important." His view is supported by two recent studies on the effects of intensive psychological support in Norway and New Zealand.

"TLC" or Tender Loving Care is the rather soppy name given to the support offered to women by St James's. In fact what they get is much more than a sympathetic ear and a reassuring pat on the head. Weekly ultrasound scans – which can pick up a baby's heartbeat just five weeks into the pregnancy – offer physical proof that the baby is still alive, and

where it's deemed appropriate, conventional medical treatment is offered. But, Professor Walker says, "It's very difficult to separate the effect of these treatments from psychological support. If you give someone an injection once a week that is a very strong support – they are getting something to help them. There is a huge placebo effect."

Professor Lesley Regan, who runs the largest recurrent miscarriage clinic in the western world, at St Mary's in Paddington, admits that she is also mystified by the fact that patients offered immediate access to medical help seem to do extraordinarily well. "I can't explain it in physiological terms but I do think there is something about helping women to help themselves which is of benefit to them. Most patients want you to find something wrong and it often takes a long time to explain that in fact it's probably better if we don't. But if you're an intelligent, book-reading person and no one can give you an answer it's terribly frustrating. Women become quite depressed because they feel out of control, which they are. Most of my job is putting them back in control."

Her job is also to find more answers and more effective treatments. One of the most significant recent breakthroughs at St Mary's has been the use of low-dose aspirin and the anti-clotting drug Heparin to help prevent early miscarriages in women who carry Lupus antibodies, but who do not exhibit any other symptoms of the disease – about 15 per cent of recurrent miscarriers. The antibodies can cause clotting in the blood vessels that supply the placenta and this leads to the baby's death at any time up to 28 weeks. Drug therapy increases the live birth rate in these women from 10 per cent to 70 per cent – a finding which, un-



Barbara Hepworth-Jones with her identical twin daughters Ellen and Louisa, age three

Photograph: Kalpesh Lathigra

Barbara Hepworth-Jones, 35, a clinical research education advisor, had three miscarriages after she first got pregnant at age 29. After attending the Royal London recurrent miscarriage clinic she gave birth to identical twins, Ellen and Louisa.

"At the time of the miscarriages my husband was quite stressed and involved a lot of travelling. I was convinced that stress had contributed to the miscarriages, partly because the GP advised bed rest. I felt very guilty but I couldn't change my lifestyle. I wanted to carry on working after having a baby."

I spent hours looking up things in medical journals, desperately trying to find a cause or treatments that would make it all right next time. I think I was also looking for reassurance that it wasn't my fault. I got depressed and couldn't stand to be with friends who were pregnant. The only thing that helped was talking to other women who'd had miscarriages too.

My husband was obviously upset but he seemed to feel fairly confident that next time things would go OK. The main problem was dealing with me. I thought we'd never have a baby. I didn't tell anyone at work about the miscarriages. My employers didn't let me get pregnant and I knew I wouldn't get any long-term projects maternity leave looked likely.

After the third miscarriage I went for various tests at the Royal London most of which were negative. They said it was possible that my immune system was rejecting the baby, so I was immunised with my husband's white blood cells. Studies done since show the difference this makes is marginal but at the time I felt it might help.

When my pregnancy test was positive I attended their early pregnancy support clinic. I could phone up if I was worried and got a lot of TLC. The clinic held a special scanning afternoon for recurrent miscarriers, when there were no happy, very pregnant women in the waiting room. I would see the heartbeat on the scan and feel confident for a few days then, when the worry off, it was only another three days until the next scan. That care and reassurance really got me through.

I was certain it would go wrong, so I didn't acknowledge that I was going to have babies until six weeks before the due date, when I bought two Babygro. Within two days I gave birth to identical twin girls – premature but healthy. I've done a lot of reading and I'm fairly sure that my miscarriages were just bad luck, caused by chromosomal abnormalities. But at the time you can't appreciate that."

like many others, has stood the test of time. Professor Regan's team is now looking at whether some women have a genetic predisposition to infections in the womb which are linked with miscarriage, and into hormonal abnormalities. It all sounds highly

optimistic. But the harsh reality for individual women is that there are still only a handful of clinics offering the kind of support pioneered at St James's and St Mary's, although more are now following their example. Most women have to suffer at least three miscar-

riages before doctors are willing to investigate. This has particular repercussions for the increasing numbers of women who delay pregnancy until their late 30s and beyond, when the risks of miscarriage become much higher anyway.

Some clinics take a more humane approach to their queuing system than others. But the treatment currently available to women of all ages is still a lottery depending on where they live, their GP's willingness to refer them, and their own determination.

For more information send an SAE to The Miscarriage Association, Clayton Hospital, Northgate, Wakefield, West Yorkshire, WF1 3JS. Tel: (01924) 200799. Professor Lesley Regan's book, 'Miscarriage: What Every Woman Needs to Know' is published by Bloomsbury, £7.99

My sister says Dad abused her as a child. Should I believe her?

VIRGINIA IRONSIDE

WHAT READERS SAY



DILEMMAS

Judith thought she had a happy childhood, but her sister has suddenly revealed that their father abused her every night, creeping into her bedroom. Her father is very upset – as is her mother – and denies it completely. Judith's sister now refuses to see her parents. How can Judith be loyal to everyone?

One only has to look at the daughters of Enid Blyton or Antonia White, whose views of their mothers varied hugely between mum-in-a-million and monster, to realise that we each have a different experience of our parents, even sisters close in age. For one, their father is a dominating bully with a cat-o-nine-tails always close to hand; for the sibling he's a strong but kindly character who is all bark and no bite.

I am always astonished when talking about my father to my half-sisters; sometimes we are discussing exactly the same person, and then we suddenly diverge, as if we were each talking about a completely different person. There is "Christopher", as he was to me, and "Daddy", as he was to them. For example, I'll say, "Christopher was so insecure," and they'll say: "Insecure? Daddy?", completely flummoxed by such an idea.

Parents similarly treat children differently. They may make huge gender preferences – the boys get all the second helpings and the white meat, and the girls have to clear the table. With children of the same sex, some are favoured, some are scapegoated. It's a rare but known syndrome that a child in a family can be so hated that he or she is made to eat in a different room, wear second-hand clothes, and generally be turned into a Cinderella-type slave by a mother who, to her other children, is perfectly normal, warm and affectionate. Up to a point there are always slight favourites in families, and though they've never talked about it, everyone knows who's the chosen one.

This would account for the difference in behaviour of Judith's father towards the two girls. But are her sister's accusations true? Is she

correctly remembering what happened? Might it have been no more than a case of her father coming in at night to check she was properly tucked up, and give her a kiss before he went to bed himself? Might this have got translated into abuse by some convinced therapist, or indeed even by the sister herself, who may be displacing her own early feelings of sexual desire for her father on to the man himself so as not to take responsibility for them? Or maybe yes, her father did find her attractive, but never laid a finger on her. We respond intuitively to feelings, even if they are never acted out. If this was the case, was it abuse?

It certainly feels odd to me that Judith, even when she was told by her sister, had no "Aha! So that explains everything" bells going off in her head, no feeling that suddenly all the pieces had come together and that that would account for the funny looks her father had given her, or the vague feelings of sexual abuse. Her sister now refuses to see either her father or mother, which is odd, because her mother never did her any harm, unless she felt that by her inaction she was condoning what was going on, and there's no evidence of this.

Will the sister cut Judith out of her life, too, unless she backs her up in her recently discovered memories?

My advice to Judith is to keep well out of it all, and hang on to the memories of the happy childhood she clearly had. Her parents have never done her any harm, and second-hand hatred or revenge is always unkind. If, as a result, her sister wishes to cut her out of her life as well, this, as they say, is the sister's problem.

Whether true or not, your sister needs help

Child abuse has a huge profile at present. I was abused myself, so I dare to say that the current hype about it has worked up a frenzy which can do more harm than good to many victims. And it has certainly alerted persons seeking attention to a perfect way of dramatising themselves.

What is important in genuine cases is for the victim to come to terms with what happened, and then move on. Whether her claims are fabricated or genuine, your sister needs professional help. I almost hope her claim is genuine, as if these are lies she must be in a bad way indeed. JMC, Caernarvon

Trust your own gut feeling about what happened

Children are very sensitive to the emotional atmosphere at home. If you are genuinely astounded to hear this allegation, then it is possible that it is not true.

I say this because in my family it was I who uncovered "memories" of sexual abuse, when I was

clinically depressed in my mid-twenties, and accused my father. Later, through therapy, I admitted to myself that I was angry with him for a host of unexpected reasons, but he had never sexually abused me. It was a terrible time for the whole family. My brother sided with me and effectively lost Mum and Dad for two years. So keep an open mind and heart; your parents and sister are still the people you have loved all your life. Keep saying to them that you don't know whether it happened or not, but that you hope whoever is telling the truth will stick to their guns – so that if this rift stems from something other than sexual abuse, your sister may find it easier eventually to admit the truth. Kate Bishop, London SW10

Give your father the chance to say sorry

Unfortunately your sister probably has been abused by your father – what would she stand to gain from making this allegation if it were not true? She must be every bit as upset as your parents:

I bet she has been building up to this for years. She will have considered the possible outcome of keeping the events of the past to herself – bearing the secret burden with increasing anger, fearing that any children you and she may have would have the same treatment from their grandfather.

Now she is giving him the opportunity to be the good father she has always longed for, by apologising for the abuse. You could support everyone by encouraging them to talk about what happened. Your sister should state what she felt at the time about your father's behaviour – unbelievable as it seems, he may have thought she liked what he did; after all, he liked it, and she was his girl!

Your father may take the olive branch on offer at a family discussion and admit something he will have tried to forget – that what he did was wrong, and he knew it at the time and is sorry now. If he can summon up the courage to admit this, it could be the making of him. Isabel Brooks, Totnes, Devon

Keep on good terms with all the family

I am a counsellor who has had clients with memories of childhood sexual abuse. I would say to Judith: if your sister convinces you that she has always remembered the abuse, but has not spoken of it before, then the memory is likely to be true.

If she has only recently remembered it, whether spontaneously or while in counselling or therapy, then there is no way for either you or your sister to know whether it is true. Sometimes such recovered memories are true; sometimes they are based on real events, but distorted; sometimes they are a symbolic indication of some other kind of distress.

Can you keep on good terms with both your parents and your sister, while making it clear that you simply can't know who to believe? It is a difficult thing to do, but if you succeed you could be the means by which some sort of reconciliation (yes, they do happen) can be negotiated. Name and address withheld

NEXT WEEK'S DILEMMA

My grandchildren are coming to stay for a few days while my daughter-in-law is away.

She has given me a list of rules, such as no sweets, no television except half an hour on Friday, bath twice a day, only half-an-hour on the computer every day,

and a bit of a left-over punishment from a few days ago which means that my grandson, aged eight, has to go to bed at 7.30pm for the rest of the week and be shut alone in his room with a book. I want their time with me to

be happy – do you think I can insist that these rules be relaxed? Sandra.

Letters are welcome, and every contributor who has a suggestion quoted will be sent a bouquet from laterflora

Send your comments to me at the Features Department, The Independent, 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL (fax: 0171-293 2182) by Tuesday morning. And if you have a dilemma of your own that you would like to share, please let me know.

The Queen makes a stand against the times



EDITOR: ANDREW MARR
DEPUTY EDITOR: COLIN HUGHES
ADDRESS: 1 CANADA SQUARE,
CANARY WHARF,
LONDON E14 5DL
TELEPHONE: 0171 293 2000
OR 0171 345 2000
FAX: 0171 293 2435
OR 0171-345 2435

So the Queen is not at ease with the idea of a nation "with its finger on the fast-forward button", in her Prime Minister's ghastly phrase. "I sometimes sense that the world is changing almost too fast for its inhabitants, at least for us older ones," she told the Pakistani parliament. It was meant as an aside, the closest one gets to a Royal Joke, and a self-deprecating one too. But it offered an elegiac insight into the conservative character of our monarch. Hers is a popular sentiment - that the pace of technological change is growing ever faster. That there is no hope for us wrinkles when three-year-old Angelica can already programme the video and surf the Net.

But it was ever thus. Seventy-one-year-olds doubtless shook their heads when the pharaoh's engineer explained how to move five-ton blocks of stone up a pyramid. What's wrong with a simple cremation? they probably asked. They tut-tutted when the first motor cars spluttered onto

the roads. Dangerous, noisy, impossible to drive. They regarded the telephone as a jangling invasion of privacy, and preferred speaking to an operator instead of using anything quite as complicated as a dial. Indeed, the Queen's grandmother Queen Mary, who died in 1953, refused to use one at all. Technophobia seems to run in the family. This was also the week when the Princess Royal issued a sombre warning against confusing computers with education. Part of the fun in the news that the royal family had set up its own web site on the Internet was its incongruity, set against the image of an old woman who still wears headscarves and for whom a keyboard probably means a piano.

But it is a mistake to think that, simply because someone is old enough for a free bus pass, they cannot operate a microwave or must feel disoriented by scientific progress. Some old people are enthused by change, while some young people cannot cope or stick wilfully to a

mannered fogeyism. This is not a matter of years, but of an attitude of mind.

What the Queen was really saying yesterday is that she does not belong to the flexible side of the human race. She did not suddenly start to disapprove of change when she became a grandmother; unsurprisingly, she was ever thus.

But the important point is that she is on the wrong side of the divide. It is part of the urban mythology of modern life that technology advances by geometric progression, with ever shorter times between scientific breakthroughs with ever greater power to change our lives. It is central to visions of ecological catastrophe, a kind of modern-day green millennialism, that technology is spinning out of control.

Again, it was ever thus. There is a tendency in human nature to see scientific advance as a threat to civilisation as we know it. But there is a stronger tendency to find things out, try things out, and push at the limits of what can be done. We have no

choice, of course, but it is right that the questing spirit should prevail.

At the simplest level, "you can't teach an old dog new tricks" is a misunderstanding. Much of the new technology is designed specifically to enable people to cope with change. If people cannot use mobile phones and computers, they will not sell. Nowadays, electronic gadgets come with thick instruction booklets which most people throw away because they are so easy to use.

But there is a more profound point. There is no doubt that the pace of change in our understanding of the physics of the universe, the technology of information and the science of life is accelerating. This should be liberating and exhilarating. But, as scientists break boundaries in their explorations of higher maths, mind-bending physics and genetics, they have streaked away into areas where most people cannot follow.

Perhaps there always was a knowledge

elite, from the scribes of Ancient Egypt to the professors of genetic manipulation, capable of terrifying the rest of us with the fear of that which we can only dimly grasp. But now scientific breakthroughs are translated into the way we do business at astonishing speed, and there are new dangers in the disconnection between the knowledge elite and society generally.

This has been demonstrated by the public alarm over the cloning of sheep and the possible cloning of people. This newspaper has argued that these fears are misplaced, but scientists do need to develop their understanding of the ethical and social contexts in which they work.

The route to democratic understanding, however, lies mainly in a wider realisation that trying to find the answer to the next problem, or how to make use of the answer to the last one, is the only way to control technology. It is not a message we would expect the Queen to like, but standing still is never the right thing to do.

Post letters to Letters to the Editor
and include a daytime telephone number.
Fax 0171 293 2056; e-mail: letters@independent.co.uk
E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address.
Letters may be edited for length and clarity.

LETTERS

Tebbit's Britain

Sir: In the light of Lord Tebbit's remarks, let us give William Hague some credit ("Anger as Tebbit questions loyalties of 'two-nation' immigrants", 8 October). Not only did he have the courage to send a message to the Gay Pride march, but he has consistently supported cultural diversity in this country. Unlike Lord Tebbit, Hague appreciates that a modern economy will entail the mobility of labour which will inevitably lead to ethnic diversity within nations. Britain was never a monochrome culture, but modernity has now made such a dream impossible.
IAN MARKHAM
Liverpool Professor of
Theology and Public Life
Liverpool Hope University
College

Sir: Let it pass that Norman Tebbit has no more claim to be an aboriginal of this island than anyone else. Let it pass that many of the heroes of the narrow history he was taught at school were themselves immigrants or foreigners. His speech might have been marginally less repulsive if he had the balls to address immigrants and the descendants of relatively recent immigrants directly. Instead he was talking to an extraordinary alliance of skinheads, hooray Henriks and little old ladies in elaborate blue hats.

History is not only what he was taught in school, it is also what happened last year, last week, this evening - and it can go in any direction, including towards the Balkanisation he fears. He mistakes the causes, however. Like Karadzic in Serbia or Paisley in Northern Ireland, he may find himself the catalyst of the very hatred and violence he pretends to be saving us from.
JON GRAY
Bath

Sir: Lord Tebbit's remarks reflect Britain's need to confront the consequences of its own meddlesome creation of false "multicultural" countries in the name of empire.

A country like Nigeria, forcibly amalgamated in 1914 into a "multicultural" colony served the purposes of the imperial state. The different nations were bludgeoned into submission.

We did not ask to be lumped



by imperial fiat in an association of strange bedfellows. Britain's multiculturalism was self-created. It was the result of a nation's craving for the ure of overseas dependencies, with which come excess baggage.

For Lord Tebbit to bicker about it without placing the issues in context is further to alienate ethnic communities from the Tory party and raise the spectre of forcible repatriation. Yet as all sensible people know, a new Britain cannot be born from its imperial past. It will be born out of the creativity of all its inhabitants and its birth is being overseen by Tony Blair.
MICHAEL O BANJO
London SE16

Memories of abuse

Sir: Dr Kevin Islesy (letter, 3 October) is attacking the wrong windmill. While I can accept no responsibility for Freud I can as-

sure him that the Royal College of Psychiatrists places great importance on the early recognition and treatment of sexual abuse in childhood. I agree with what he says about the suffering of adults who were abused as children.

The much less common problem which we are trying to deal with is the phenomenon of "false memories" which may be created in adult life and are followed by devastating consequences within the family. The suffering in these families is well documented and the accused often gains little relief from the "revelation" and the isolation from those they had loved and depended upon which follows.

We are not questioning the reality of childhood abuse, but we are saying that it is the responsibility of therapists to ensure that the task of treating abused children should not blind them to the suffering which can occur when inap-

propriate therapy of adults generates false memories of past abuse.

SYDNEY BRANDON
Chairman, Royal College of
Psychiatrists Working Group
on Recovered Memories
Leicester

Threat to midwives

Sir: I was astonished to read that the One-to-One midwifery scheme is under threat of closure (letter, 2 October).

As a mother of two and with another on the way, I feel most strongly that it is extremely important for those making the decisions to be fully aware of the physical, psychological and, perhaps more importantly to them, financial benefits of this scheme.

I had my first child at Queen Charlotte's and had shared care between hospital and GP. This involved meeting with a different midwife on each hospital visit. I wasted a good deal

of everyone's valuable time, because of the lack of midwife continuity. The last straw was when the midwife who had looked after me through labour had to leave shortly before I gave birth because her shift had ended.

With my second child I was advised by my doctor to opt for the One-to-One scheme. For a working mother it was ideal. It gave me the confidence to sail through my pregnancy with no other medical attention apart from that received from the midwife. I spent a maximum of one hour in the hospital during the nine months of my pregnancy. I went to hospital for the last stage of labour and the birth. I arrived at 10pm and was back home by 1am.

The time element in itself demonstrates how much money must be saved through fewer hospital and GP visits. It would be more sensible to expand the One-to-One service

rather than axe it, so that more women can enjoy this excellent service.

NICKI GUNNING
London W3

Learn to love euro

Sir: You report a pre-election survey indicating that 61 per cent of British voters wish to retain the pound ("Voters still hostile to the euro", 7 October).

Under what circumstances will people continue to hold this view? If the euro proves a success? If sterling returns to its historical position as a soft currency, vulnerable to speculators and declining against the world's major currencies? If inflation and interest rates in the UK surge higher than in those countries that are part of a single currency? If inward investment falls due to inevitable resentment over the UK's semi-detached position? If the UK is pushed to the margins of EU

decision-making? If British industry finds itself at a competitive disadvantage?

It is not surprising that there is opposition to economic and monetary union and even to the European Union as a whole. Successive Conservative governments and mass-circulation newspapers, several of them foreign-owned, have consistently rubbished the European integration process in favour of an atavistic appeal to nostalgia, English nationalism and xenophobia.

The debate on the merits of a single currency has hardly begun. The Blair government must pitch into this debate with honesty and courage. Only then is there any likelihood of a change in the public perception of what is in our long-term interests.

SIMON SWEENEY
Senior Lecturer in European
Integration Studies
University College of Ripon
and York St John, York

US lesson on wages

Sir: Jonathan Fry (letter, 6 October) seems unaware of the basic economics of employment in Britain's small businesses: that if you don't earn enough money to pay a minimum wage then you either have to sack people or not employ them in the first place.

We are often told that the minimum wage system works in the US. What is not stated is that exemptions exist for firms whose annual turnover is less than \$500,000 (75 per cent of all UK firms have an annual turnover of less than £100,000) and firms that employ fewer than 15 people (93 per cent employ fewer than 10, while 97 per cent employ fewer than 20).

In other words, just about every small business in the United States is exempt from the legislation. In any case the minimum wage level is set so low that the majority of firms already pay well over that figure. Failure to treat small businesses in the UK in a similar manner will result in massive unemployment in this sector.

Dr BERNARD JUBY
Federation of
Small Businesses
London SW1

Rowse in my shop

Sir: As a former purveyor of books to the late A.L. Rowse I can inform James Fergusson (obituary, 6 October) that his avian cries of "Cooee!" were not reserved for his housekeeper.

They would oft float up the creaky stairs to my office where my struggles to produce a catalogue would be punctuated by "Cooee! Cooee! I say - are you there?" Breathlessly he would arrive with a bundle of his own works under one arm for which he would demand credit.

After some haggling I would say, "Oh, all right - if you sign them." Whereupon he would produce his pen and flourish his signature across the title-page.

I once sold him a water-colour which he claimed to have hung above his bed. Perhaps his greatest intended compliment was an invitation to tea at All Souls.
PHILIP JAGGARD
Oxford

Never mind about hitting below the belt - let's see what your navel is made of



MILES
KINGSTON

In all my life I have only ever heard two funny things about the navel.

Other parts of the body are supposed to be funny, or capable of being funny, but there is nothing particularly comic or even very interesting about the navel. For one thing, it is about the most useless part of the body there is. You couldn't be born without it, and you can't do anything else with it. The day you are born and your umbilical cord is snipped, its usefulness is over, and for the rest of your life you carry it around as if it were an old self-by-date label you had forgotten to remove.

After that, the navel acquires characteristics which the great designer of the world

never intended it to have. It marks the belt line, so it becomes a symbol of fairness and unfairness, as when something is below the belt. It has acquired a nickname, the belly button, which I suppose ranks it above the middle finger and the elbow, two bits of the body which I have never heard referred to lightly. Sometimes, when little children are asking awkward questions about where babies come from, they are told that they come from their navel, and indeed I have heard of young children rubbing navels mutually in order to achieve this mysterious miracle known as having babies, but I am afraid there are not many less interesting things to rub together than navels. Which is exactly

why navels were chosen to tell children about.

But what else? Well, people who are inward-looking are often said to be contemplating their navel, which implies a kind of hopelessness to the case. And what question do they ask themselves as they contemplate this strange cavity, which I once heard described as the perfect place to put salt if you eat celery in the bath?

The question they may well be asking themselves is: what two funny things can he possibly have heard about navels in the last 40 years?

I am glad you asked that question.

The first I heard about 30 years ago, when Mort Sahl was a great name as the first of the

improvising comedians, and what he said was this:

"I was listening to a folk singer the other night - you know what a folk singer is, don't you? A folk singer is an artist who performs passionately with his shirt open, right to the navel. Only they have no navel. This is the ultimate rejection of the mother..."

That has stuck in my mind for 30 years, not because it is funny (which it isn't) or because it is significant (it doesn't mean anything at all), but because it is a great example of something that sounds as if it should be funny - it has all the shape of being funny without actually being funny. I am very fond of it for that reason. But I now realise that I should have treasured

it for another reason: it was probably the only use made of the navel in modern humour.

Until now.

Or until the other day, when Taliban, one of the few ruling parties in the world beside Labour to have dispensed with the definite article, made a pronouncement from its government offices in Kabul, Taliban, as you know, is an Islamic fundamentalist movement. They therefore think that being Islamic entitles them to pronounce on all matters in human life. (The late Ayatollah Khomeini had the same idea, until the *fatwa* pronounced on him by Salman Rushdie led to his untimely end.) And in this case they had come to a decision about morality in sportswear,

which is something that not even Tony Banks has done yet.

If any person in Afghanistan should indulge in sport, they said, they should not go beyond the bounds laid down by Islamic propriety. In other words, anyone who wore shorts for their sport should make sure that the shorts went below their knees. And anyone who went bare-chested for a sport should make sure their navel was hidden.

So welcome back to 20th-century humour, the navel!

A reader writes: Dear Mr Kingston, it is not so long ago that we too in this country had shorts below the knees. Have you seen pictures of pre-war Arsenal? Their shorts are nearly down to their ankles! You may well laugh, but we didn't have pitch violence,

referee bribing and players throwing matches then. Maybe there was some connection between that and the long shorts. You hadn't thought of that, had you? And before the war you didn't get athletic kit so streamlined that you could see every sexual organ in 3D, including the navel, for all I know, did you? What have you got to say to that, eh?

Miles Kingston: What have I got to say to that? I'll tell you what I've got to say - come outside and say that again, that's what I say! Put your dukes up and let me not see your navel!

In tomorrow's episode, a Taliban agent fights three holy contested rounds with Mr Kingston behind the pub until both are arrested for boxing in trousers the wrong length.

Dead? No, the Tory tiger is still a dangerous beast



POLLY TOYNBEE
THE NATION'S
MEAN STREAK

I came to gloat. To wander around the battlefield and survey the routed rabble, defeat etched on their shamed faces. There they were, the dazed old generals, bizarrely arrayed against the pink, swirling backdrop - Mawhinney's scowling brows, Howard's demented, fixed grin. "A Fresh Future," says the podium slogan - but "fresh" is one of those leaden words, like "hilarious", that suggests the opposite: stale, very stale old faces. Ah, the pleasure of it.

Up gets young Hague. Now is the time, he says, to get up off our knees. Now is the time to stop apologising. Sorry? Did I miss something? Who apologised? John Major did, just, pausing for the "no, no's from the floor, who knew he really blamed those he'd dubbed "bastards", sitting behind him. No one I talked to has changed their own personal position - not one jot or tittle: they are locked in warfare still. No one says "I was wrong; my views were wrong." For this is still a party rent by schism from top to bottom. The mad fever burns as fiercely in their veins; the lesson is not yet learned; they are gripped by passionate hatred of one another. The crisis is not yet passed, and we do not know if they will die of it or live to fight another day.

I spent most of my time amongst the delegates, taking their pulse, checking their eyeballs, tapping their reflexes. Taking tea in the Palm Court of the Winter Gardens, they were mainly the old, interspersed with a few fiercely ambitious, pinstriped young men on the make.

One and all protested that Labour had stolen their clothes and now strutted preposterously in their purloined finery. "But," said one, "they're only pretending. They don't mean it. No, not even Jack Straw. It's not in their guts. They are not us - we know it, they know it, and the people of Britain will find out soon enough."

The more I talked to them, the more I saw their point. Take Mrs Nora Smith, OBE, hon vice-president of the Westmoreland and Lonsdale party, now at her 27th conference. "We are the party of the family and law and order. Respect and back to basics, religion and uniforms in schools, with good, old-fashioned discipline in the home. I spoke to a teacher the other day and I thought he was a workman, the way he dressed. The rot started under Labour in the permissive Sixties, and we've got to get a grip. Only we Conservatives really understand these things. My grandchildren understand respect - they don't say boo to a goose. They're seen and not heard, I'm glad to say." She can't understand the loss of nerve in her party. "On Europe, Cash and Gorman had a point, but they did help lose the election. I really don't know what's got into everyone. Of course we'll be back, because we stand for clear Conservative values." She's right. Labour is not wearing her clothes. She does not sound even remotely like anyone in the Labour party.

Nor does 25-year-old Philip Davies of Colne Valley, who wants to be a candidate next time. He's a customer relations adviser

for Asda, and was the only Tory student at Huddersfield University. "We should never join EMU, on principle, never mind the pros and cons. We're the party of the nation state. The party must inspire British people and give them something to fight for. Law and order is our issue. Jack Straw is soft - giving prisoners back their TVs in their cells. I'd bring back corporal punishment, but of course EU law won't let us. I'd keep them locked in their cells 24 hours a day. What's this rubbish about overcrowding? I'd have them three or four to a cell, and hard labour too. As for tuition fees, well, if you go to prison you get tuition free. All this is in our guts, every one of us. We're Tories. We don't need focus groups to tell us what the people think. We are the people. Labour aren't."

There was plenty more where all that came from. Populist, nationalist, "common-sense", reactionary, True Blue views. There were some radicals, too, who want to slash welfare to ribbons, dismantle state provision of health, pensions and education, regroup and radicalise in the wilderness as Thatcher did in preparation for her 1979 victory. But mainly the Tory rank and file just rely on the good, old-fashioned, nasty, blinkered, mean-minded, selfish Tory values that have stood them in such good stead for most of this century.

Now the question is, are they right? We may dismiss all this as out-of-date nonsense, off the Richter scale, yesterday's story, a mad rumour so out of kilter with these gentler times that we can forget them. On the other hand, Blair may well be right when he warns that the Tories are just sleeping.

To be sure, as their new EMU Elastoplast phrase goes, "for the foreseeable future" they are well and truly out of the game. Hague shows every sign of picking up Major's broken baton, glueing it back together and attempting to conduct the same mad Balkan orchestra. Norman Tebbit and Alan Clark gave him a splendid chance to exert a new discipline. After all, they could hardly have said more damaging or more wicked things. What do we get? Mr Hague "flatly disagrees" with them. Oh dear. Why didn't he withdraw the whip? Because 700 delegates cheered rapturously at Tebbit's speech, and he's fudging and fudging like his predecessor.

However, sooner or later Hague or someone else will probably manage to get back on top of the Tory tiger and grab the reins again. What will happen if all these old True Blue values come bounding out of the jungle, reborn, in one piece? Will they find a nation that was transformed out of all recognition on 1 May? Have all those years and votes for beastliness just evaporated, in a new, compassionate, caring, giving Britain? Are Blair and Diana-ism really triumphant, for ever?

Almost certainly not. Or not yet. Most people still voraciously read the same beastly newspapers, packed full of the same beastly xenophobic views and prejudices. The *Mail*, *Sun* and *Telegraph* have not turned kind and generous overnight. Nor, presumably, have their readers. The beleaguered, ageing rump of a party meeting here in Blackpool may look a sorry sight now, but that doesn't mean they haven't still got their finger on the pulse of the nation's old mean streak. They are not history, or not quite yet.

Labour in power still has to prove that the country can be well run, fiscally prudent, good at social problem-solving, both adventurous and wise, both reforming and practical - and compassionate, too. It has to show that a government can be tough on inflation and crime, yet tolerant and open minded on how people choose to live their lives.

If not, then the Tory tiger will still have teeth. I came to gloat, but I came away chastened, remembering how deep and strong Tory values still are, even when the Tory party is weak. The battle to change Britain has only just begun.



Multiculturalism is at the heart of American vitality: Million Man March in Washington, October 1995

Photograph: Steve Heber/AP

Even Canute would not try to hold back the tide of multiculturalism



RUPERT CORNWELL
TEBBIT FAILS
THE TEST

In his rich and vivid political career Norman Tebbit has been likened to many things. Sage of the Saloon Bar, Bover Boy of the Thatcher era and, of course, to borrow Michael Foot's immortal coinage - the "semlouse-trained polecat" of Commons fame. But in the wake of his diatribe against multiculturalism, the comparison that springs to mind is with King Canute. Lord Tebbit may not like it, nor may an unknown but doubtless substantial portion of the British people. But there is nothing to be done.

Countries are not set in aspic, they constantly change, evolve and acquire new layers. Britain's identity is a mixture of Roman, Celtic, Anglo-Saxon and Norman - the first and last of which inserted themselves into the national fabric in distinctly more violent and disruptive fashion than Asians and blacks are doing now. Tebbit's vision is of a Britain where the church clock is for ever at ten to three, whose inner cities are unstained by crime, where everyone knows their place beneath the law and God.

One may wonder, too, about Tebbit's opinion of the US, a model lauded so often and so

loudly by his liege-lady, Margaret Thatcher, but whose fault lines mostly spring from the uniquely multicultural character of its society. Unlike Britain's voluntary immigrants from the Caribbean, America's black community has every right to disown all things American: "We didn't land on Plymouth Rock, Plymouth Rock landed on us," said Malcolm X, a forerunner of Louis Farrakhan's Nation of Islam, which a couple of years ago set white America's nerves on edge with the Million Man March in Washington DC. In America, too, so great is the Hispanic influx that many demand special laws to defend the status of English as official language. Only in America, too, is the tiniest slur, real or imagined, capable of having an entire ethnic group up in arms - or rather of propelling it to the law courts.

And yet America flourishes, not so much in spite of as because of multiculturalism. In America, to the country's great advantage, multiculturalism ensures very few people know their place. Multiculturalism is at the heart of America's tensions, but also of its vitality. America has its Tebbits - the Pat Buchanans and the redneck militiamen who rail against gays and foreigners of every hue, and believe the United Nations and the World Trade Organisation are plotting to turn the country into a vassal state. The notion is as absurd as Tebbit's suggestion that Britain could become another Yugoslavia.

Indeed, in matters multicultural, Britain in some respects is doing better than America. Race relations are palpably more relaxed here. Maybe it is another case of British muddling through, reflecting both the fact that we do

not have an education system that force-feeds our "national heritage" as vigorously as Tebbit would like, and our ability to laugh at ourselves.

Or take France. Confident of the power of its *rayonnement culturel*, it long considered itself multicultural. Today, however, for its population of North African origin, "Frenchness" is increasingly less beacon than straitjacket. France is caught in a vice, between a minority that cannot be fully assimilated, and nationalist politicians, led by Jean-Marie Le Pen, who are more numerous and more extreme in their views than Tebbit and their other counterparts in Britain.

But there is a deeper truth. In countries around the world, the divided loyalties so lamented by Tebbit abound, deriving from race, skin, faith or language. As America shows, they need not be a recipe for disaster. Rather, as attested by the tragedy of 20th century German Jews - in all but one fatal respect more German than the Germans - the worst trouble comes when the state deems those loyalties mutually incompatible.

Tebbit may have a point when he argues that beyond small groups such as club, family or gang, humans cannot relate directly to each other without overriding standards or beliefs in common. Without such glues of language, national heritage and so on, a country ceases to be a nation or a society, just "a population living under the same jurisdiction".

To which one may answer first: what is wrong with this minimalist definition of statehood? Lack of a common faith or language does not mean all roads lead to Bosnia. True, there are multicultural mis-

matches like Canada which, if God rather than messy events shaped history, would surely be two countries. But Switzerland, boasting three languages and much cantonal tribalism, is doing very nicely. Belgium, despite the odd ruction, functions well enough.

Second, Tebbit's argument is defeatist. If the majority's heritage and culture are sufficiently attractive, the minority will embrace them alongside their own, and sometimes, gradually, in substitution for their own. In the process the dominant culture will be subtly altered. By and large this is what has happened in America, and the phenomenon is to be observed here. What, after all, is more "British" than the Indian take-away?

Third, like it or not, multiculturalism's advance is irresistible. It's not just the sheer impossibility of undoing what is already done. Mixed marriages will increase. Easier travel, the growth of supranational institutions like the European Union, the communications revolution, the Internet, and the babel of a myriad of competing media outlets, representing every ethnic and cultural group - all are spoons to stir the global cultural pot, reaching ef-

fortlessly over the borders so cherished by Tebbit.

For proof, there is sport, which has largely replaced the old-fashioned instruments of monarchy, war and diplomacy as a prism for national loyalty. For me and maybe millions of others, a victory by an Italian, Spaniard or Swede in the recent Ryder Cup was as welcome as one by an Englishman, as long as an American was on the receiving end. And as an Arsenal supporter, I would look most benignly on a Dutch victory over Glenn Hoddle's team if a couple of Dennis Bergkamp goals were responsible.

So much, too, for the celebrated Tebbit "cricket" test - that you can't be English if you don't support the national cricket team. What about Nasser Hussain, Mark Ramprakash, the Hollisakes, Devon Malcolm, Andy Caddick - colonials all of various hues? Support the team? They are the team. Yesterday, typically, Norman Tebbit would yield no ground: "If a society does not integrate, it will tend to disintegrate... It will be a little while before we look at the Notting Hill Carnival the same way as we do Morris dancing." But one thing is certain. Sooner, rather than later, we will.

Have you left anyone out of your Will?

Give your pet a home for life by leaving a legacy to The Blue Cross

Do you worry about what would happen to your pet if you were no longer there? By leaving a legacy to The Blue Cross, you can help us give your companion food, shelter, kindness and cuddles for the rest of his life.

Every year, The Blue Cross rescue thousands of homeless pets. We look after them all until loving, new homes can be found, no matter how long it takes - that's a promise.

If you would like us to care for your best friend when you're gone, return the coupon below to find out more about making a legacy to The Blue Cross.

Protect your pet's future - find out more about remembering The Blue Cross in your Will.

☐ Please send me a FREE advice booklet on making a Will and leaving a legacy to The Blue Cross.

☐ I have already made a Will and would like to find out how I can leave a legacy to The Blue Cross.

Name (Mr/Ms/Ms)

Address

Postcode

Send to: Charlotte Potts, The Blue Cross, Freepost, Room 901C, Shilton Road, Banford, Oxon OX18 4BN. Registered Charity Number 224492.

THE BLUE CROSS

The year's best poem?

Lavinia Greenlaw's poem, published here today - National Poetry Day - last night won the Forward prize for the year's best poem. The writer is poet-in-residence at the law firm Mischon de Reya.

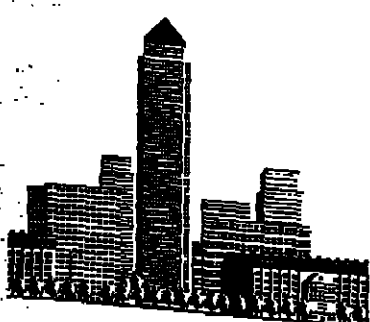
A WORLD WHERE NEWS TRAVELLED SLOWLY

It could take from Monday to Thursday and three horses. The ink was unstable, the characters cramped, the paper tore where it creased. Stained with the leather and sweat of its journey, the envelope absorbed each climatic shift, as well as the salt and grease of the rider who handed it over with a four-day chance that by now things were different and while the head had to listen, the heart could wait.

Semaphore was invented at a time of revolution: the judgement of swing in a vertical arm. News travelled letter by letter, along a chain of towers, each built within telescopic distance of the next. The clattering mechanics of the six-shutter telegraph still took three men with all their variables added to those of light and weather, to read, record and pass the message on.

Now words are faster, smaller, harder ... we're almost talking in one another's arms. Coded and squeezed, what chance has my voice to reach your voice unaltered and then to leave no trace? Nets tighten across the sky and the sea bed. When London made contact with New York, there were such fireworks City Hall caught light. It could have burned to the ground.

هكذا من الادل



OUTLOOK ON THE FED CHAIRMAN'S LATEST WARNING. ACCESSING THE INTERNET VIA ELECTRICITY CABLES. AND WH SMITH

Alan Greenspan; this time it's serious

Alan Greenspan, chairman of the Federal Reserve, rarely gets quoted entirely accurately on anything. So it was perhaps inevitable that his uncontentious observation yesterday that it was not realistic "to look for a continuation of stock market gains of anything like the magnitude of those recorded in the past couple of years" should have become distorted on some of the more unreliable news wires to the bald assertion that stock prices were "unrealistically high". Plainly, there is a world of a difference.

All the same, what he actually did say was sobering enough. Mr Greenspan's normally delphic testimony to the US House of Representatives was, for a change, unambiguous. Mr Greenspan is not a believer in the "new paradigm", the theory that the US has abolished the business cycle, that the economy is on a sustainable glide path of low inflation and high growth out into the indefinite future. Mr Greenspan is far too wise an old bird to call the theory so much hooey; the American public doesn't like to hear that kind of thing. But he might well have done.

Choosing his words carefully, Mr Greenspan said: "Short of a marked slowing in the demand for goods and services and hence, labour - or a degree of acceleration of productivity growth that appears unlikely - the imbalance between the growth in labour demand and the expansion of potential labour supply of recent years must eventually erode the current state of inflation quiescence, and with it the solid growth of real activity". What he

is saying here is that to head off inflationary pressures in the US economy, the Fed needs to slow the demand for labour. The only way it can do this is in time honoured fashion - by raising interest rates.

Mr Greenspan was less clear on timing, but a small rise in rates when the Fed's open markets committee meets next month now looks highly likely. What will this do to the markets? When Mr Greenspan warned of "irrational exuberance" in financial markets last December, they took not a blind bit of notice. Since then the Dow Jones Industrial average has risen a further 30 per cent. On that occasion, however, there was nothing in the way of action to halt the rise in asset valuations, only words. This time round he looks intent on going further by pricking the bubble with a rise in rates.

Furthermore, regardless of whatever action the Fed takes, the implication of what Mr Greenspan is saying here is quite hearish. Financial markets have priced in an optimistic outlook, he said. One characteristic of this process is a continual upward revision of longer term corporate earnings forecasts which has driven price earnings ratios to levels never before seen at this stage of the economic cycle.

Running parallel to this has been a marked increase in the perceived rate of return for new business ventures which in turn is leading to a sharp increase in capital investment. In other words, we have here all the elements of a dangerous speculative spiral. Mr Greenspan would not want the market to crash. But he is say-

ing as plainly as he can: cool it, or we will all be sorry.

United gives the Internet a plug

When Sir Desmond Pitcher embarked on his madcap scheme to create the ultimate multi-utility, the joke was that it would only be a matter of time before he began offering a telephone service down the same line as water, electricity and gas.

Life sometimes imitates fiction and that is what is about to happen at United Utilities. Not content with proving that water and electricity mix about as well as the executive chairman does with his chief executives, the company is about to throw another utility into the mix. Next year United Utilities plans to start a pilot trial linking customers of Norweb to the Internet via their domestic electricity supply. Even if you can get over the (electric) shock of it, the thought of connecting to the World Wide Web in this way still sounds far-fetched. Pick up the iron and make that call.

Norweb is certain the technology works and has got a listful of worldwide patents to prove it. Moreover, it has the backing of Nortel, one of the world's biggest telecom equipment groups. Isolate the electrical noise that causes power cables to interfere with communications signals, and low voltage electricity cables turn into the perfect local area network for broad band data transmission. The pos-

sibilities are endless - CD quality audio, video clips and high-speed gaming, all delivered via the meter under the stairs.

Where the strategy looks dangerously like falling apart is in the marketing. A quarter of households may now possess a personal computer, if you believe the propaganda, but just 2.5 per cent are linked to the Internet. To make the idea pay its way, the men from Norweb have to persuade 10 per cent of its 2 million customers to connect to the Internet via its cables, which looks like a hopelessly tall order.

Undaunted they dream of the day when customers will literally be able to connect to the Internet by plugging a three pin plug into the wall. Now if Sir Des could arrange for the water and gas to be piped in that way too...

Why Smiths will have to look again

WH Smith has made two serious misjudgements in the last week's stand-off with Tim Waterstone. It thought that if it told him to go away and forget his ludicrous proposals, he would shrug his shoulders and go home. The company underestimated the determination that almost two decades of rancour can engender.

It has also misjudged the willingness of its owners to turn a blind eye to a truly pathetic share price performance since last summer. Since August last year, the shares have fallen by 23 per cent, under-

performing the rest of the market in that time by over 40 per cent. Blithely to reject all proposals in these circumstances suggests wholly unjustified arrogance.

It is hardly surprising that investors have been willing this week to do what Richard Handover and friends have resolutely refused to - sit down with Mr Waterstone and hear what he has to say. It is no less surprising that many of them have subsequently picked up the phone and told the company to get its act together and do the same.

There is little doubt that the proposals as reported offer rather more to Mr Waterstone and SBC Warburg than to shareholders, and they should and will be improved. In any circumstances, a premium for control of perhaps 30 per cent is reasonable - after such dramatic underperformance it is a bare minimum.

The acquisition of Daisy & Tom for an undefined but probably inflated figure also looks silly, even though it may have been no more than a ruse by SBC to get Mr Waterstone on board. Furthermore, the warrants look a pretty generous reward for a plan which is hardly rocket science.

For the risk averse fund manager, the final straw for the Warburg plan as presented is the way it combines the retailer's inherent operational gearing with a sizeable slice of financial leverage as well.

So the plan needs changing. Having sounded out shareholders, the Waterstone camp is now in a position to put something more realistic on the table. Only that will make Smiths drop its ridiculous pretence that it can carry on as if nothing had happened.

Investors press WH Smith to meet Waterstone

Institutional pressure yesterday continued to drive WH Smith to a meeting with its would-be chief executive, Tim Waterstone.

Tom Stevenson, Financial Editor, reports on the high-stakes poker game between the retailer and its ambitious nemesis.

A meeting between Tim Waterstone and WH Smith's board moved closer yesterday after some of the retailer's biggest shareholders told the company they disagreed with its blanket rejection of last week's takeover proposals.

It also emerged that the Waterstone camp, together with its advisers at SBC Warburg Dillon Read, were prepar-

ing a compromise proposal that would attempt to soothe investors' concerns about the level of borrowings proposed for Mr Waterstone's takeover vehicle.

The takeover team is also understood to be preparing a more flexible position on what has emerged as a further sticking point with a number of shareholders, the valuation attributed to Mr Waterstone's private retail concept, Daisy & Tom, which would be taken over by WH Smith as part of the deal.

Up to one-half of WH Smith's top investors are thought to favour a rapprochement between the two sides and have approached the company or its broker, Cazenove, to insist a meeting should take place. Jeremy Hardie, the chairman of Smiths, who has remained silent on the proposals since they

were rejected, is thought likely to be a prominent figure in the renewed discussions.

WH Smith restated its rejection of Mr Waterstone's proposals yesterday and said it had no intention of meeting with its former employee. Despite the rising groundswell of opinion against its stance, the company has refused to deviate from its line that Mr Waterstone's proposals offer nothing worth discussing.

Mr Waterstone approached Mr Hardie 10 days ago with proposals that would see him replace Richard Handover as chief executive of the stationery, music and books retailer. He believed he was involved in confidential talks until a pre-emptive rejection by the retailer last Thursday put the bid on to the back foot.

The SBC Warburg-devised plan would have seen around

£600m of debt taken on by the company to fund a 200p hand-out to shareholders, the sale of the Our Price record chain and WH Smith's US operations, and a radical overhaul of the core high street chain.

Institutions seen by the Waterstone team this week are understood to have been interested in the planned changes, but some have expressed concern about an injection of debt that would see gearing rise to about 80 per cent of shareholders' funds. They are also concerned that Daisy & Tom, which recently started trading from one shop on London's King's Road, is to be acquired in exchange for too big a shareholding in the new company.

Although Warburg believes the injection of £600m of borrowings would create the most efficient capital structure for the cash-generative retailer, it

is thought to be drawing up a new proposal which would see less than 200p a share being handed back to shareholders. It is also looking at plans to make any acquisition of Daisy & Tom less reliant on an upfront payment and more on an earnout which would only cost WH Smith shareholders if the concept proved successful.

Not all WH Smith's shareholders were enthusiastic about change. One leading investor said he retained doubts about the Bookseller's ability to run a business of WH Smith's size.

He welcomed the approach, however, for the galvanising effect it was likely to have on the company's new management.

The retailer's shares closed 5.5p lower yesterday at 386p, but are trading around 20p higher than before Mr Waterstone's approach was publicised.

The Government yesterday gave the go-ahead for another gas-fired power station, further increasing the pressure on the coal industry as it fights to retain its share of the electricity generating market, writes Michael Harrison.

Entergy, the US utility that took over London Electricity last year, has been given permission by the Department of Trade and Industry to build the £390m plant at Damhead Creek, 30 miles east of London on the Thames estuary. The 740-megawatt gas sta-

tion will burn the equivalent of 1.75 million tonnes of coal - equal to the output of one large colliery.

The approval for the station follows National Power's announcement earlier this week that it is to construct a £450m gas-fired station on a site near Newark.

That plant, built on the site of a former coal-fired station, will cut demand for coal by about 3.5 million tonnes.

Entergy already has approval to construct a 1,200-megawatt station in Hull, Yorkshire.

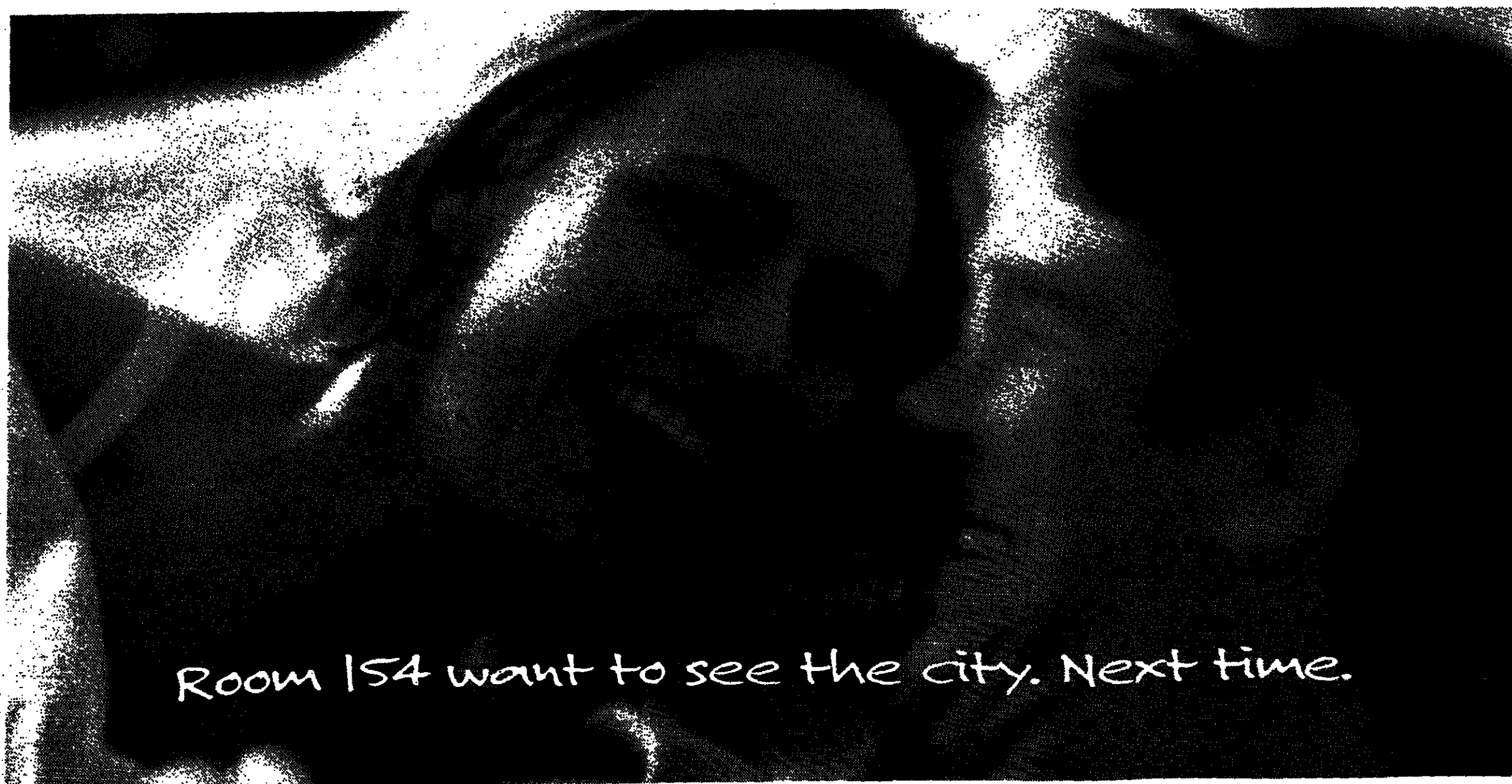
Construction of the Damhead Creek plant will start in April of next year and the station is due to come on stream in 2000.

The DTI has issued a Sec-

tion 36 consent for construction of the plant - the second such authorisation it has granted since Labour came to power in May.

There had been hopes that the change of government would spell a more friendly approach to the coal industry but ministers appear to be keener of making sure Britain meets its environmental commitments to cut carbon dioxide gases than to protect coal-mining communities.

Terry Ogilvie, president of Entergy Power Development Corporation, said that the technology being incorporated into the new station would deliver higher output at the same time as lower environmental emissions than conventional systems.



Room 154 want to see the city. Next time.

Based on two people sharing.

At Marriott, our superb locations and unique range of leisure and golf facilities make it easier for you to do exactly what you want. Even if that's just staying in to share a romantic meal. What's more, the prices quoted in our brochure are the lowest you'll find for Marriott Leisure Breaks. There are 23

Marriott Hotels in the UK including 7 hotel and country clubs. For reservations with prices starting at just £29 per person* call 0800 221 222. For our best ever value Leisure Breaks brochure call 0800 444 878. **Marriott** HOTELS · RESORTS · SUITES

ITV Television
P387

ABERDEEN, BIRMINGHAM, BRADFORD, BRISTOL, CARDIFF, CHESTER, CHESHAM, CHICHESTER, DORSET, EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, HEATHROW, LEEDS, LONDON, MAIDSTONE, MANCHESTER (1998), NEWCASTLE, PORTSMOUTH, PRESTON, SOUTHAMPTON (1998), SWANSEA, SWINDON, WARE.

Sleepy Kids seeks new MD to revive merchandising

Sleepy Kids, the embattled animation company which owns the rights to 'Budge the Helicopter', has bowed to pressure to beef up the management team. Cathy Newman reports.

Shares in Sleepy Kids have fallen to 14p from a high of 117p three years ago. Now, the husband and wife team that founded the company in 1985 is taking action to show the City they mean business by searching for a managing director for their merchandising business, one of the group's most important divisions.

However, despite a determined trawl through the industry, no takers for the post have yet been found.

Martin Powell, the company's chairman, said yesterday the new recruit would "exploit the properties we own", which include *The Disguises*, an action adventure series for children, and *Dr Zibug's Transylvania Pet Shop*.

Mr Powell, who is running the merchandising division with his wife, said: "We're going to want a particular individual to take the reins. There are five or six strong candidates."

Sleepy Kids has come under increasing pressure from shareholders after falling profits and a series of problems with its core product, Budge, which

was created by the Duchess of York. The company became embroiled in a \$22m (£14m) legal battle with Budge's marketing agents earlier this year, and ITV failed to commission a fourth series of the cartoon. Fox Children's Network has also axed the series.

Sleepy Kids is reportedly seeking bidders for Budge to raise cash for new projects. Mr Powell said yesterday he could never rule out disposing of assets, but there were no plans to sell Budge at the moment.

Profits for the 14 months to December 1996 slid to £292,000, from £890,000 the year before. Mr Powell blamed a delay in completing a deal to distribute Budge videos in the United States.

Stagecoach to order 515 buses

Stagecoach Holdings, the train and bus company run by Brian Souter, said yesterday that it was planning to order 515 buses for 1998 at a cost of £50m. This follows an order worth £89m last November for 625 buses. Stagecoach said the new fleet would include a "standardised range of low-entry, easily accessed vehicles, including midibuses, single-deck and double-deck buses." A spokesman added: "Following this order, the average age of our UK fleet will be approximately seven years against an estimated industry average of 10 years." He said suppliers for the latest order include MAN, Trinity Holdings's subsidiary Dennis Specialist Vehicles, Volvo, Mercedes-Benz and Mayflower Corporation's bus-making arm Walter Alexander.

Triplex rejects mystery bidder

Triplex Lloyd, the engineering group, said it had rejected takeover overtures from a mystery bidder. The company said that takeover discussions had taken place, but they "were unlikely to lead to an offer capable of being recommended to shareholders". Some analysts now expect a hostile bidder for the embattled engineer to emerge.

BCH seeks London listing

Vehicle management company BCH is to list on the London Stock Exchange. BCH, which in 1996 recorded operating profits of £2.7m on sales of £46.5m, is to seek listing via a share placing, scheduled for November. HSBC Investment Bank is sponsoring the flotation, which will be brokered by Panmure Gordon & Co.

Frogmore profits rise 65%

Frogmore Estates, the British property developer, saw year-end profits soar to £25.6m yesterday, an increase of 65 per cent. Total dividends rose to 20p a share. Profits were helped by a significant contribution from County Hall, former home of the GLC, and demand in London generally was strong. Chairman Dennis Cope said he was looking to the future "with confidence". The shares rose 5p to close at 562.5p.

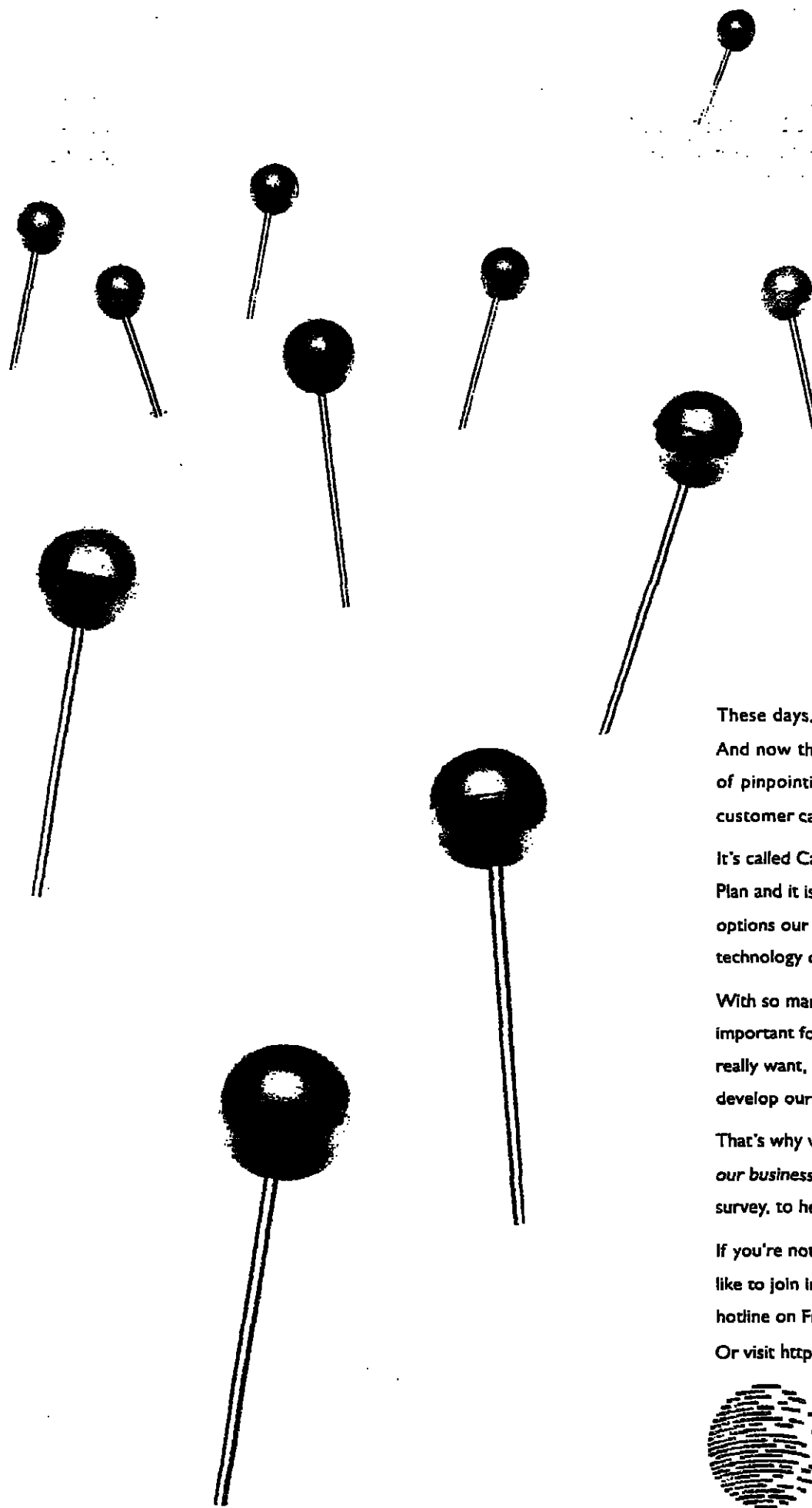
IMI pays £86m for valve maker

Engineering group IMI is to buy German valve maker Herion-Werke for £86m. The deal, announced yesterday, will take IMI's gearing to 70 per cent. Nick Paul, IMI's deputy chief executive, said that there were opportunities for "sales and product synergies".

COMPANY RESULTS

	Turnover £	Pre-tax £	EPS	Dividend
Alexander Workwear (I)	36m (35.4m)	2,226m (-724,000)	5.5p (4.4p)	2.5p (2.5p)
BATW Advanced Ceram (I)	\$4.79m (\$5.42m)	\$1,001m (\$1,501m)	3.23c (6.02c)	nil
Bridgeport-Bumby (F)	22.8m (25m)	-2,437m (1,451m)	-18.08p (8.76p)	4.53p
N Brown (I)	158.2m (131.4m)	18,014m (16,028m)	8.43p (7.35p)	2.25p (2.0p)
Carbo (I)	45.3m (51.6m)	701,000 (411,000)	0.43p (0.39p)	0.5p (0.5p)
Frogmore Estates (F)	161.8m (147.2m)	25.7m (15.55m)	36p (18p)	20p
Goldsmiths Group (I)	31.8m (28.1m)	-305,000 (54,000)	-0.88p (0.18p)	2.75p (2.4p)
Silentsight Holdings (I)	107.8m (98.9m)	5,815m (4,901m)	8.82p (7.31p)	3.20p (3.0p)
Time Products (I)	43.3m (48.3m)	9,985m (9,069m)	12.43p (11.29p)	4.9p (4.5p)
Tyzack Precision (F)	25.1m (28.4m)	-706,000 (1,357m)	-3.5p (8.0p)	2.75p (2.0p)
(F) - Final (I) - Interim				

Would you like a phone system that tells you where your customers live?



These days, targeting is everything.

And now there is actually a way of pinpointing your incoming customer calls by area.

It's called Cable & Wireless Zone Plan and it is just one of the amazing options our communications technology offers your business.

With so many possibilities, it's important for us to know what you really want, so we can shape and develop our products to suit you.

That's why we're sending all of our business customers a national survey, to hear their views.

If you're not a customer, but would like to join in, simply call our survey hotline on FreeCall 0800 068 8060.

Or visit <http://www.cwcom.co.uk>



CABLE & WIRELESS
What can we do for you?

THE INVESTMENT COLUMN

EDITED BY SAMEENA AHMAD

N Brown fall not as bad as it seems

N Brown, the Manchester-based mail order group, has been one of the most reliable performers in the retail sector over the past few years.

So it was surprising to see the shares dip yesterday on news of a fall in operating margins in the first half.

Though that ratio slipped to 12.8 per cent compared to 13.4 per cent in the first half last year, the news was not nearly as bad as first appeared.

Though the 12.4 per cent increase in first-half profits to £18m did not match the 19 per cent sales increase, the reasons were more about investing in future growth than short-term problems.

Net margins were affected by a significant and planned increase in the number of new customers attracted to the group's raft of catalogues.

New customers are loss-making for the group in the first year as their spend is low compared to more seasoned shoppers. They only start to become profitable in years two or three, so seeds sown now will be reaped in 1998-99.

Second, the company now fulfils around 30 per cent of its deliveries via its own couriers, which gives it greater control, but has come at a cost of £500,000.

Like-for-like group sales rose by an impressive 19 per cent on last year. Current trading since the end of the half has not been so good, but that includes a flat

With British folks only replacing their bed once in 15 years on average and prices static at around £300 for an average double, the UK bed market has little room to grow. That said, after a downturn in the 1990s, rising consumer spending means the market is now bouncing back. Silentsight achieved an impressive 13 per cent rise in bed sales in the last quarter, boosted by post election confidence, to give an overall 9.4 per cent lift at the half year.

However, Bill Simpson, chief executive, says Silentsight's UK laminated cabinet division, currently 30 per cent of group turnover, is the key to long-term growth. Assembled laminated furniture is cheaper than solid wood and as technology improves increasingly popular. Silentsight has around half the UK market and has been growing cabinet sales at some 15 per cent a year for the past six years.

Consolidation among UK furniture retailers - witness yesterday's H&C bid for Kingsbury - will benefit the big players. Silentsight, with cash in the bank, will undoubtedly be looking to buy up casualties from that trend. It has already picked up cabinet business Meredew on the cheap. Though still loss-making, the business is recovering and adds valuable capacity.

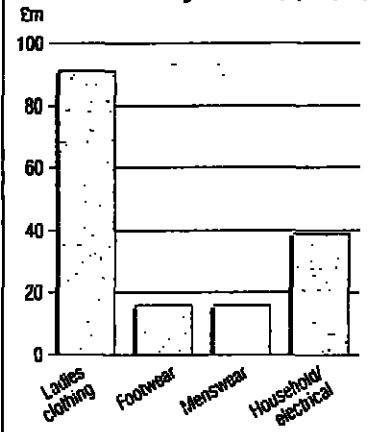
The failure of a US furniture retailer hit Silentsight's US bed profits, but that is a one-off and cautious expansion into a strong US market will continue. Analysts forecast £16m for the full year. On 13.5 times, the shares, down 17.5p to 315p after a strong run on Tuesday, look reasonable value.

N.Brown: At a glance

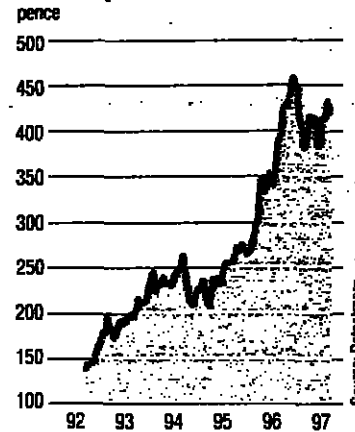
Market value: £902.2m, share price 412.5p

Trading record	1995	1996	1997	96/97	97/98
Turnover (£m)	208.2	230.8	280.5	131.4	156.2
Pre-tax profits (£m)	28.5	31.2	37.1	16.0	18.0
Earnings per share (p)	12.3	14.4	17.0	7.35	8.43
Dividends per share (p)	4.8	5.7	6.8	2.0	2.25

1997 sales by sector, (Half year)



Share price



two weeks as a result of the shopper apathy which followed the death of Diana, Princess of Wales.

Other mail order groups are understood to have experienced the same. N Brown's sales have recovered in the three weeks since the death.

Jim Martin, N Brown's chief executive, is continuing his strategy of recruiting more shoppers in the 30 to 40-year age range to the catalogues whose core constituency has historically been the over 50s.

The younger group now accounts for 19 per cent of group sales, 29 per cent ahead of last year. The company is also investing £20m this year on warehouse expansion and computer upgrades.

No acquisitions are on the horizon, the company says, though a return to the Freemans deal is always possible if the competition authorities block Littlewoods' purchase from Sears.

On full-year forecasts of £42m the shares, down 5p to 412.5p yesterday, trade on a forward ratio of 21 times.

That is a 20 per cent premium to the market, but given the shares were rated at a 40 per cent premium a year ago, they are starting to look good value.

Beds do better for Silentsight

Which way are investors in the UK's bed-making market to turn? As yesterday's announcements clearly show, the two biggest players, Silentsight and Airsprung, are having very different experiences. While Airsprung warned its half-year results would fall substantially below expectations, stripping 27 per cent off its share price, Silentsight, the UK's biggest bed and laminated furniture maker, is going great guns, reporting interim profits to August almost a fifth higher at £6m.

Airsprung's problems look very specific. While its beds business remains comfortable, Airsprung flagged up serious management shortcomings and quality problems at a couple of recently acquired companies. That leaves Silentsight as a more reliable bellwether of the UK furniture market and a far better bet for investors.

Goldsmiths extends its chain

On the face of it, Jurek Piasecki, head of jewellery retailer Goldsmiths, had little reason to smile yesterday. He revealed that the company had slipped into the red in the six months to August, with losses of just over £300,000. The group's share price closed 9p down at 331.5p.

It all seems a far cry from last year's *rosy sentiment*, when Goldsmiths unveiled its first profits since flotation in 1990 and said it wanted to bid for the UK jewellery businesses of Signet, the former Ratners group. But although first-half figures are undeniably grim, the true picture is not all bad.

Following its disappointment with the Signet deal, Mr Piasecki decided that if Goldsmiths couldn't grow by acquisition, it would have to grow organically. In January, he placed 1.1 million shares to raise the necessary cash. Rival Signet currently has a far larger retail network than Goldsmiths, but Mr Piasecki is intending to beat Signet at its own game. Six shops have opened already this year and another nine are due for the second half. Twenty shops are scheduled for 1998 and a further 20 for 1999.

The cost of opening these new shops is one reason why first-half figures look poor. The other is that Rolex, an important source of revenue for Goldsmiths, reduced retail margins. The expansion programme should help to reduce Goldsmiths' historical dependency on Rolex as very few of the new shops are earmarked to carry this luxury line. Goldsmiths' burgeoning insurance business and a new deal with Harrods to run its diamonds department are further reasons to think that the company's prospects look bright.

Forecasts from Charterhouse Tilney put Goldsmiths on a forward price-earnings ratio of about 17, making it look expensive. Luxury watch distributor Time Products, which announced a small increase in profit yesterday, are sitting on a p/e of about 9.

But given prospects at Goldsmiths, it might be worth hanging on to the shares.

هكذا من الأصل

MARKET REPORT

DEREK PAIN
STOCK
MARKET
REPORTER
OF THE YEAR

His earlier attempt to cool down stock markets had a short-term impact. In December he created turmoil with the Dow Jones Average 55.16 and Footsie 88.2 down. Next day the two markets rallied, shrugging off the Federal Reserve chief's comments that markets were a "collapsing financial asset bubble".

Railtrack remained on the right lines with a 33.5p gain to 977.5p as speculation continued about its property assets. Ladbroke's again made progress with hopes of Sheraton management contracts.

10p) higher at 380.5p. Talk is growing of bid action with Rank, the leisure group, replacing Allied Domecq as the likely predator. Rank is in need of an impetus. It could see Grencall's problem

Share spotlight
share price, pence

650
600
550

Greenalls

Year	Share Price (pence)
1990	640
1991	650
1992	620
1993	600
1994	580
1995	560
1996	550
1997	550

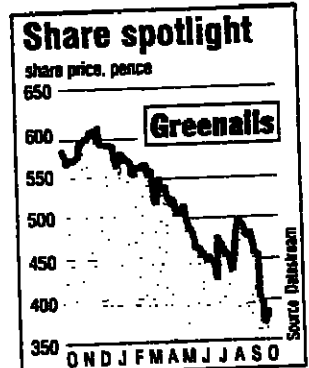
Rolls-Royce, making presentations in Scotland, fell 7p to 231p as a US seller dominated. **British Biotechnology** was also hit by a strong seller; in heavy turnover the shares fell 10p to 127.5p as an institution unloaded.

on the £47.6m agreed bid from H&C Furnishings. Signet's big share trade turned out to be an illusion; someone, somewhere, punched an incorrect deal into the system. The shares ignored it all — unchanged at 33.75p.

KCL, the old Exploration Company of Louisiana, flared 5p to 33p as stories flowed of rich oil and gas finds at Bohai Bay, off north east China. Apache, which partners KCL, is said to have described the discovery as the biggest so far this year.

Jardinerie Interiors, an office plants business, sprouted 7p to 84.5p. Takeover talk is in the air. Rentokil and Wyevale Garden Centres could be interested. JI came to market at 114p, went to 155p and then fell to 72.5p after unremarkable figures.

Tension is growing over order-driven trading but Royalblue, one of the software providers, has no complaints. The shares rose 11p to a 259.5p peak; they have climbed 34.5p this month. Profits are expected to be £2.8m (£2m).



High Low Stock					12 week					12 week					High Low Stock					12 week				
	Price	Chg	Vol	PER Code		Price	Chg	Vol	PER Code		Price	Chg	Vol	PER Code		Price	Chg	Vol	PER Code					
Alcoholic Beverages																								
32-42	Alfred Dunhill	48.00	-7.00	54	1	500				32-42	Alfred Dunhill	48.00	-7.00	54	1	500								
32-43	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-43	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-44	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-44	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-45	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-45	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-46	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-46	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-47	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-47	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-48	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-48	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-49	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-49	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-50	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-50	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-51	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-51	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-52	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-52	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-53	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-53	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-54	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-54	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-55	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-55	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-56	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-56	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-57	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-57	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-58	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-58	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-59	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-59	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-60	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-60	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-61	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-61	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-62	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-62	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-63	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-63	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-64	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-64	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-65	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-65	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-66	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-66	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-67	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-67	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-68	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-68	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-69	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-69	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-70	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-70	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-71	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-71	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-72	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-72	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-73	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-73	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-74	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-74	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-75	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-75	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-76	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-76	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-77	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-77	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-78	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-78	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-79	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-79	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-80	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-80	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-81	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-81	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-82	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-82	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-83	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-83	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-84	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-84	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-85	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-85	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-86	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-86	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-87	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-87	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-88	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-88	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-89	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-89	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-90	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-90	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-91	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-91	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-92	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-92	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-93	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-93	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-94	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-94	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-95	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-95	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-96	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-96	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-97	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-97	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-98	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-98	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-99	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-99	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
32-100	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500				32-100	Budweiser	22.00	-22.00	54	1	500								
Banks, Merchants																								
32-101	Albany Nat	42.00	-0.50	63	1	800				32-101	Albany Nat	42.00	-0.50	63	1	800								
32-102	Chen Corp	42.00	-1.00	84	1	800				32-102	Chen Corp	42.00	-1.00	84	1	800								
32-103	Chen Corp	42.00	-1.00	84	1	800				32-103	Chen Corp	42.00	-1.00	84	1	800								
32-104	Chen Corp	42.00	-1.00	84	1	800				32-104	Chen Corp	42.00	-1.00	84	1	800								
32-105	Chen Corp	42.00	-1.00	84	1	800				32-105	Chen Corp	42.00	-1.00	84	1	800								
32-106	Chen Corp	42.00	-1.00	84	1	800				32-106	Chen Corp	42.00	-1.00	84	1	800								
32-107	Chen Corp	42.00	-1.00	84	1	800				32-107	Chen Corp	42.00	-1.00	84	1	800								
32-108	Chen Corp	42.00	-1.00	84	1	800				32-108	Chen Corp	42.00	-1.00	84	1	800								
32-109	Chen Corp	42.00	-1.00	84	1	800				32-109	Chen Corp	42.00	-1.00	84	1	800								
32-110	Chen Corp	42.00	-1.00	84	1	800				32-110	Chen Corp	42.00	-1.00	84	1	800								
32-111	Chen Corp	42.00	-1.00	84	1	800				32-111	Chen Corp	42.00	-1.00	84	1	800								
32-112	Chen Corp	42.00	-1.00	84	1	800				32-112	Chen Corp	42.00	-1.00	84	1	800								
32-113	Chen Corp	42.00	-1.00	84	1	800				32-113	Chen Corp	42.00	-1.00	84	1	800								
32-114	Chen Corp	42.00	-1.00	84	1	800				32-114	Chen Corp	42.00	-1.00	84	1	800								
32-115	Chen Corp	42.00	-1.00	84	1	800				32-115	Chen Corp	42.00	-1.00	84	1	800								
32-116	Chen Corp	42.00	-1.00	84	1	800				32-116	Chen Corp	42.00	-1.00	84	1	800								
32-117	Chen Corp	42.00	-1.00	84	1	800				32-117	Chen Corp	42.00	-1.00	84	1	800								
32-118	Chen Corp	42.00	-1.00	84	1	800				32-118	Chen Corp	42.00	-1.00	84	1	800								
32-119	Chen Corp	42.00	-1.00	84	1	800				32-119	Chen Corp	42.00	-1.00	84	1	800								
32-120	Chen Corp	42.00	-1.00	84	1	800				32-120	Chen Corp	42.00	-1.00	84	1	800								
32-121	Chen Corp	42.00	-1.00	84	1	800				32-121	Chen Corp	42.00	-1.00	84	1	800								
32-122	Chen Corp	42.00	-1.00	84	1	800				32-122	Chen Corp	42.00	-1.00	84	1	800								
32-123	Chen Corp	42.00	-1.00	84	1	800				32-123	Chen Corp	42.00	-1.00	84	1	800								
32-124	Chen Corp	42.00	-1.00	84	1	800				32-124	Chen Corp	42.00	-1.00	84	1	800								
32-125	Chen Corp	42.00	-1.																					

[illegible]

Prices are in sterling except where noted. The **Yield** is the current yield on the bond. The **Duration** is the weighted average maturity (WAM) in years. The **Rating** is the bond's rating by Standard & Poor's. The **Spread** is the difference between the bond's yield and the yield on a Treasury bill of the same maturity. The **Volatility** is the standard deviation of the bond's returns. The **Correlation** is the correlation coefficient between the bond's returns and the returns on the FTSE 100 index. The **Source** is Bloomberg.

The Independent Teleshare - Tel. 0891 - 201 200

To access Real-Time Share Prices, 24 hours a day call 0891 - 201 200.

You will have the current FTSE 100 index followed by a Stock Market Summary Report.

You can interrupt at any time to hear a Real-Time Share Price by keying * plus a 4-digit 'code' from the listings on this page.

To get a Membership Number to set-up your Portfolio facility, please call 0891-229-8288.

For help with the service, including the Portfolio facility, call the Help Desk on 0891-229-8288.

(ITS plc, London EC2A 4YJ).

6000 calls cost 50p per minute.

Share volume: 955.9m trades 52,806

Market Leaders: Top 20 volumes

Share	Vol	Share	Vol	Share	Vol	Share	Vol
B&S Tobacco	36.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Spring Bank PLC	32.5m	Nashua Ltd	14.7m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Veritas	26.4m	Lufthansa	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Gen Bank	26.4m	Thomson	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Gen Bank	26.4m	Thomson	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m

FTSE 100 index hour by hour

Time	Index	Change	High	Low	Open	Close
09:00	3563.5	+0.5	3563.5	3563.5	3563.5	3563.5
10:00	3568.7	+5.2	3568.7	3568.7	3568.7	3568.7
11:00	3570.0	+1.3	3570.0	3570.0	3570.0	3570.0
12:00	3570.0	0.0	3570.0	3570.0	3570.0	3570.0
13:00	3570.0	0.0	3570.0	3570.0	3570.0	3570.0
14:00	3570.0	0.0	3570.0	3570.0	3570.0	3570.0
15:00	3570.0	0.0	3570.0	3570.0	3570.0	3570.0
16:00	3570.0	0.0	3570.0	3570.0	3570.0	3570.0
17:00	3570.0	0.0	3570.0	3570.0	3570.0	3570.0
18:00	3570.0	0.0	3570.0	3570.0	3570.0	3570.0
19:00	3570.0	0.0	3570.0	3570.0	3570.0	3570.0
20:00	3570.0	0.0	3570.0	3570.0	3570.0	3570.0
21:00	3570.0	0.0	3570.0	3570.0	3570.0	3570.0
22:00	3570.0	0.0	3570.0	3570.0	3570.0	3570.0
23:00	3570.0	0.0	3570.0	3570.0	3570.0	3570.0
24:00	3570.0	0.0	3570.0	3570.0	3570.0	3570.0

12 week

Share	Vol	Share	Vol	Share	Vol	Share	Vol
B&S Tobacco	36.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Spring Bank PLC	32.5m	Nashua Ltd	14.7m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Veritas	26.4m	Lufthansa	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Gen Bank	26.4m	Thomson	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Gen Bank	26.4m	Thomson	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m

12 week

Share	Vol	Share	Vol	Share	Vol	Share	Vol
B&S Tobacco	36.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Spring Bank PLC	32.5m	Nashua Ltd	14.7m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Veritas	26.4m	Lufthansa	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Gen Bank	26.4m	Thomson	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Gen Bank	26.4m	Thomson	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m

12 week

Share	Vol	Share	Vol	Share	Vol	Share	Vol
B&S Tobacco	36.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Spring Bank PLC	32.5m	Nashua Ltd	14.7m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Veritas	26.4m	Lufthansa	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Gen Bank	26.4m	Thomson	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Gen Bank	26.4m	Thomson	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m

12 week

Share	Vol	Share	Vol	Share	Vol	Share	Vol
B&S Tobacco	36.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Spring Bank PLC	32.5m	Nashua Ltd	14.7m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Veritas	26.4m	Lufthansa	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Gen Bank	26.4m	Thomson	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Gen Bank	26.4m	Thomson	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m

12 week

Share	Vol	Share	Vol	Share	Vol	Share	Vol
B&S Tobacco	36.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Spring Bank PLC	32.5m	Nashua Ltd	14.7m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Veritas	26.4m	Lufthansa	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Gen Bank	26.4m	Thomson	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Gen Bank	26.4m	Thomson	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m

12 week

Share	Vol	Share	Vol	Share	Vol	Share	Vol
B&S Tobacco	36.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Spring Bank PLC	32.5m	Nashua Ltd	14.7m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Veritas	26.4m	Lufthansa	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Gen Bank	26.4m	Thomson	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Gen Bank	26.4m	Thomson	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m

12 week

Share	Vol	Share	Vol	Share	Vol	Share	Vol
B&S Tobacco	36.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Spring Bank PLC	32.5m	Nashua Ltd	14.7m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Veritas	26.4m	Lufthansa	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Gen Bank	26.4m	Thomson	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Gen Bank	26.4m	Thomson	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m

12 week

Share	Vol	Share	Vol	Share	Vol	Share	Vol
B&S Tobacco	36.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Spring Bank PLC	32.5m	Nashua Ltd	14.7m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Veritas	26.4m	Lufthansa	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Gen Bank	26.4m	Thomson	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Gen Bank	26.4m	Thomson	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m

12 week

Share	Vol	Share	Vol	Share	Vol	Share	Vol
B&S Tobacco	36.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Spring Bank PLC	32.5m	Nashua Ltd	14.7m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Veritas	26.4m	Lufthansa	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Gen Bank	26.4m	Thomson	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Gen Bank	26.4m	Thomson	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m

12 week

Share	Vol	Share	Vol	Share	Vol	Share	Vol
B&S Tobacco	36.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Spring Bank PLC	32.5m	Nashua Ltd	14.7m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Veritas	26.4m	Lufthansa	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Gen Bank	26.4m	Thomson	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Gen Bank	26.4m	Thomson	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m

12 week

Share	Vol	Share	Vol	Share	Vol	Share	Vol
B&S Tobacco	36.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Spring Bank PLC	32.5m	Nashua Ltd	14.7m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Veritas	26.4m	Lufthansa	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Gen Bank	26.4m	Thomson	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Gen Bank	26.4m	Thomson	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m

12 week

Share	Vol	Share	Vol	Share	Vol	Share	Vol
B&S Tobacco	36.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Spring Bank PLC	32.5m	Nashua Ltd	14.7m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Veritas	26.4m	Lufthansa	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Gen Bank	26.4m	Thomson	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Gen Bank	26.4m	Thomson	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m

12 week

Share	Vol	Share	Vol	Share	Vol	Share	Vol
B&S Tobacco	36.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Spring Bank PLC	32.5m	Nashua Ltd	14.7m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Veritas	26.4m	Lufthansa	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Gen Bank	26.4m	Thomson	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Gen Bank	26.4m	Thomson	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m

12 week

Share	Vol	Share	Vol	Share	Vol	Share	Vol
B&S Tobacco	36.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Spring Bank PLC	32.5m	Nashua Ltd	14.7m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Veritas	26.4m	Lufthansa	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Gen Bank	26.4m	Thomson	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Gen Bank	26.4m	Thomson	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m

12 week

Share	Vol	Share	Vol	Share	Vol	Share	Vol
B&S Tobacco	36.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Spring Bank PLC	32.5m	Nashua Ltd	14.7m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Veritas	26.4m	Lufthansa	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Gen Bank	26.4m	Thomson	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Gen Bank	26.4m	Thomson	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m

12 week

Share	Vol	Share	Vol	Share	Vol	Share	Vol
B&S Tobacco	36.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Spring Bank PLC	32.5m	Nashua Ltd	14.7m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Veritas	26.4m	Lufthansa	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Gen Bank	26.4m	Thomson	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Gen Bank	26.4m	Thomson	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m

12 week

Share	Vol	Share	Vol	Share	Vol	Share	Vol
B&S Tobacco	36.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Spring Bank PLC	32.5m	Nashua Ltd	14.7m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Veritas	26.4m	Lufthansa	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Gen Bank	26.4m	Thomson	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Gen Bank	26.4m	Thomson	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m

12 week

Share	Vol	Share	Vol	Share	Vol	Share	Vol
B&S Tobacco	36.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Spring Bank PLC	32.5m	Nashua Ltd	14.7m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Veritas	26.4m	Lufthansa	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Gen Bank	26.4m	Thomson	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Gen Bank	26.4m	Thomson	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m

12 week

Share	Vol	Share	Vol	Share	Vol	Share	Vol
B&S Tobacco	36.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Spring Bank PLC	32.5m	Nashua Ltd	14.7m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Veritas	26.4m	Lufthansa	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Gen Bank	26.4m	Thomson	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Gen Bank	26.4m	Thomson	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m

12 week

Share	Vol	Share	Vol	Share	Vol	Share	Vol
B&S Tobacco	36.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Spring Bank PLC	32.5m	Nashua Ltd	14.7m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Veritas	26.4m	Lufthansa	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Gen Bank	26.4m	Thomson	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Gen Bank	26.4m	Thomson	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m

12 week

Share	Vol	Share	Vol	Share	Vol	Share	Vol
B&S Tobacco	36.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Spring Bank PLC	32.5m	Nashua Ltd	14.7m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Veritas	26.4m	Lufthansa	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Gen Bank	26.4m	Thomson	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Gen Bank	26.4m	Thomson	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m

12 week

Share	Vol	Share	Vol	Share	Vol	Share	Vol
B&S Tobacco	36.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Spring Bank PLC	32.5m	Nashua Ltd	14.7m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Veritas	26.4m	Lufthansa	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Gen Bank	26.4m	Thomson	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Gen Bank	26.4m	Thomson	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m

12 week

Share	Vol	Share	Vol	Share	Vol	Share	Vol
B&S Tobacco	36.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Spring Bank PLC	32.5m	Nashua Ltd	14.7m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Veritas	26.4m	Lufthansa	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Gen Bank	26.4m	Thomson	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Gen Bank	26.4m	Thomson	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m

12 week

Share	Vol	Share	Vol	Share	Vol	Share	Vol
B&S Tobacco	36.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Spring Bank PLC	32.5m	Nashua Ltd	14.7m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Veritas	26.4m	Lufthansa	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Gen Bank	26.4m	Thomson	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m
Gen Bank	26.4m	Thomson	14.5m	BT	15.0m	BT	15.0m

12 week

Share	Vol	Share	Vol	Share	Vol	Share	Vol
B&							

berg ry.com

Virgin Direct Personal Financial Service Ltd is regulated by the Personal Investment Authority. For your security, all calls to Virgin Direct will be recorded and randomly monitored. *Male non-smoker, age 35 next birthday, 10 year period of cover, costs from £6.78

The RPI may not measure 'real' inflation. It doesn't really matter



DIANE COYLE
ON THE
PROBLEMS OF
PRICE INDICES

One of the complications the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee faces as it ponders, yesterday and today, what to do with interest rates, is the question of how good a guide the published inflation figures are to "true" inflation. For there is quite a gap between the published retail price index, even on the target measure excluding mortgage interest payments, shows inflation to be higher than it really is.

This is in principle distinct from the argument that the economy has entered a new era of permanently low inflation because of a revolutionary improvement in productivity thanks to new computer technology. As Gavin Davies demonstrated in his column earlier this week, this is a questionable assertion, as low inflation in recent years can be fully explained by low growth.

But in practice, the "new era" school of thought shores up its optimism with the idea that inflation is even lower than it appears to be, because of upward biases in the price indices. The link is that one of these biases in price measurement is the omission of rapidly falling computer prices and quality improvements.

The notion of serious mis-measurement stems from the

report last year of the Boskin Commission in the US. Its economists concluded that true US inflation might be as much as a full percentage point or more below the official figure. There were several reasons for this.

One was that the index was not constructed using the lower prices charged in new kinds of retail outlets, mainly discount warehouse clubs. Nor did it include new products, like computers and other electronic goods, whose prices were falling. Nor did it take account of quality improvements that delivered better value for the same price. It missed the fact that people switch away from goods whose prices are rising too rapidly—for example, they buy chicken if fish becomes too dear. In addition, the commission criticised the formula used to construct the US consumer price index.

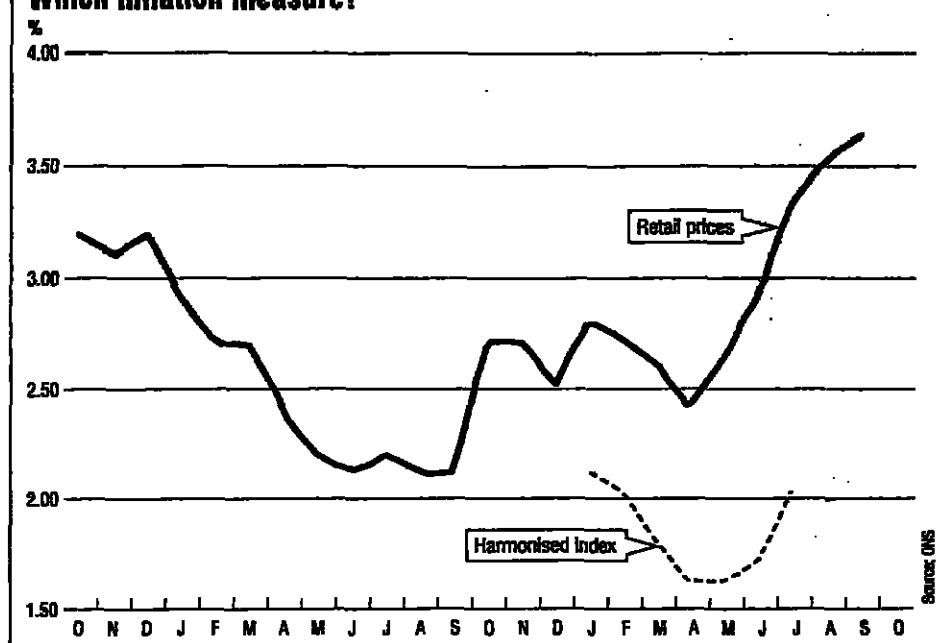
These conclusions proved controversial, and the US has not decided to implement them all. Meanwhile, the Office for National Statistics here has just published an assessment of how far the Boskin points apply to our Retail Price Index. The conclusion is: not very much. The RPI is based on a different formula. The UK does not have many discount clubs.

Just as important, the goods included in the RPI and the weights attached to them are updated every year on the basis of a survey of family spending patterns carried out the previous year, whereas the basket of goods in the US CPI has been updated only once a decade.

This year's RPI basket is based on 1995/96 spending patterns. The ONS has looked back at how different measured inflation would have been if the updating had been even faster. During recent years they found it to be only 0.06 to 0.07 percentage points, less than half the bias in the US figures the Boskin Commission attributed to this source.

This will not necessarily satisfy those who think the RPI

Which inflation measure?



overstates inflation and therefore makes the Bank reach for the interest rate trigger too early. For the index excludes some of the goods which are seeing the fastest price falls and biggest quality improvements—computers. The reason is that measuring their price and quality has simply been too difficult.

However, the ONS has started publishing a separate price index designed to be compatible with how inflation is measured in the rest of the European Union. This figure, the "harmonised index of consumer prices" or HICP, includes computers and, almost as troublesome because of their rapidly improving quality, new cars. As the chart shows, for the duration of its short existence, inflation measured by the HICP has been significantly lower than inflation measured by the RPI.

But does this make the case that inflation is "really" low and the Bank of England has nothing to worry about? Measures of price changes are needed for different purposes. To update social security benefits, for in-

stance, an index which includes computers would probably be inappropriate, as the poorest families and pensioners buy very few of them. The Bank's interest in inflation is as an indicator of whether or not the economy is growing at a sustainable pace. Slow and steady inflation is essential as a solid platform for growth and jobs.

In a sense, therefore, it does not matter exactly which measure of inflation the Bank uses, for all tend to show the same broad trends. For month-to-month monitoring it is better to use figures that the statisticians can construct fairly promptly. The Government's target RPI measure excludes mortgage payments for the special reason that raising interest rates to help reduce inflation actually increases the headline RPI via this channel. The Bank itself would prefer also to exclude tax-related price changes on the grounds that these contain no information about the state of the economy.

But, broadly speaking, these three—the RPI, RPIX and RPIY—tend to show the same

trends. The broader GDP deflator shows lower inflation because it includes import prices. The narrower producer price series shows lower inflation because it excludes retail margins. But any one of these would be suitable as a target measure. The key decision is setting the level of the target, and there is no convincing evidence that RPI growth of 2.5 per cent is incompatible with steady, sustainable growth and employment.

The Bank cannot entirely ignore the "new era" arguments. Technological change is making it harder to understand which prices matter. Should the ONS be measuring the price of books bought at a discount over the Internet? How can a conventional price index take account of the fact that a lot of computer software is free?

These will become more important issues over time. But there is nothing here that changes the kind of calculations the Monetary Policy Committee should be making this morning—nothing to persuade its members to relax about inflation.

PEOPLE & BUSINESS

JOHN WILLCOCK



The Government launched its new taskforce for the creative industries—media, music and television—yesterday after initially announcing the move to a rather muted reception three months ago. There are worrying signs, however, that this latest luvvie's crusade could turn into a flat soufflé.

Chris Smith, culture secretary, held the launch meeting at the Department for Culture, Media and Sport in Trafalgar Square. The luvvies, however, were nowhere to be seen. Shame on you, Richard Branson. Tut tut, David Puttnam. On the other hand, perhaps I shouldn't be too hard on the absent personalities. They were probably off doing some proper work.

Bill Simpson, chief executive of British bed maker Silentnight, tells me Tony Blair could have done far better than buying an imported Duxiana bed for more than £3,000.

Mr Simpson is miffed that the PM didn't give more support to British industry by buying his bed locally. "Mr Blair could have bought a Sealy [bed] and he would have enjoyed the experience just as much."

The Silentnight boss says people in this country replace their beds on average once every 15 years whereas in the US they buy new beds every 10 years. Perhaps that's because American citizens tend to be larger.

Best wishes to Daniel Godfrey, marketing director of Flemings, who fell off his 1500cc Kawasaki motorbike. "I had to spend several hours in casualty—I had a couple of cracked ribs and rather a large hole in my left leg," our hero tells me. The bike was hardly damaged but he won't be riding it again. Now he's interesting himself in safer pursuits, such as helping launch Flemings' Eastern Europe Fund on 18 October.

Jonathan Helliwell, HSBC James Capel's senior European media analyst, is moving to

Goldman Sachs. Mr Helliwell started as a printing and paper analyst at Kleinwort Benson in 1986 before moving on to Swiss Bank Corporation and then Capel.

Mr Helliwell will join Goldman's media team of Guy Lanning and Matthew Walker. In typical musical-chairs fashion, Mr Lanning started off at James Capel, left for Goldman, then went to SBC Warburg and last May went back to Goldman. Mr Lanning used to work alongside Neil Blackley, who left Goldman for Merrill Lynch in August last year.

Goldman has also signed Francis Woolten, a top rated European telecoms analyst, currently at UBS.

The independent insolvency firm, Buchler Phillips, has just poached a receiver from Arthur Andersen. Andersen is the giant American firm where David Buchler and Peter Phillips used to work before they founded Buchler Phillips 10 years ago.

BP has signed up Jamie Gleave, an insolvency practitioner at Andersen, to head up its new Manchester office. Simon Freakly, another Buchler Phillips partner and former Andersen man, admits his niche boutique has an excellent relationship with the Chicago-based firm. "We often refer assignments to each other." But doesn't Andersen mind having its insolvency partners killed all the time? "We are friendly competitors," he replies.

It's a packed calendar for the UK's receivers, despite the relative dearth of companies going bust. Next Wednesday the Insolvency Practitioners Association holds its annual Bernard Phillips Memorial Lecture. The lecture is named after the late Bernard Phillips, Peter Phillips' father, who was also a noted insolvency practitioner and who worked for Arthur Andersen.

Friendly societies are preparing to play a key role in New Labour's plans for welfare reform. So says Bob Pollard, chief executive of the Ancient Order of Foresters, who has just been elected president of the Association of Friendly Societies.

Mr Pollard will be backed up by Roy Harley, chief executive of Liverpool Victoria Friendly Society, who has been elected vice president.

Perhaps I could take these societies more seriously if they didn't sound like Freemasons' lodges in a *Monty Python* sketch. I mean, what's the Manchester Society of Odd Fellows all about? To be fair, the societies' titles often date back to the 16th century. They were set up to provide self help on a mutual basis—a phrase which chimes with New Labour.

Mr Pollard says: "The Government is open to new ideas and believes that current welfare provision is not serving the poorest members of society as it should." Mr Pollard wants us to move towards a "a system that gives a hand up, not a hand out." Those words wouldn't have been out of place coming from Margaret Thatcher.

Foreign Exchange Rates

Country	Spot	1 month	3 month	6 month	1 year
Australia	2.222	2.220	2.215	2.210	2.205
Canada	1.591	1.589	1.586	1.583	1.580
Denmark	8.464	8.462	8.459	8.456	8.453
France	16.637	16.635	16.632	16.629	16.626
Germany	1.936	1.934	1.931	1.928	1.925
Italy	1.936	1.934	1.931	1.928	1.925
Japan	161.00	160.80	160.60	160.40	160.20
Netherlands	2.203	2.201	2.198	2.195	2.192
New Zealand	1.591	1.589	1.586	1.583	1.580
Sweden	8.464	8.462	8.459	8.456	8.453
Switzerland	1.936	1.934	1.931	1.928	1.925
UK	1.591	1.589	1.586	1.583	1.580

Other Spot Rates

Country	Spot	1 month	3 month	6 month	1 year
Argentina	1680	1680	1680	1680	1680
Brazil	1775	1775	1775	1775	1775
China	8.270	8.270	8.270	8.270	8.270
India	46.82	46.82	46.82	46.82	46.82
Indonesia	1550	1550	1550	1550	1550
South Africa	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
South Korea	1100	1100	1100	1100	1100
Taiwan	35.00	35.00	35.00	35.00	35.00
Thailand	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00
US	1.591	1.589	1.586	1.583	1.580

Interest Rates

Country	Rate	Term
UK	7.00%	Discount
France	5.50%	Discount
Germany	5.50%	Discount
Italy	5.50%	Discount
Japan	5.50%	Discount
Netherlands	5.50%	Discount
Sweden	5.50%	Discount
Switzerland	5.50%	Discount
US	5.50%	Discount

Bond Yields

Country	Rate	Term
UK	5.50%	Discount
France	5.50%	Discount
Germany	5.50%	Discount
Italy	5.50%	Discount
Japan	5.50%	Discount
Netherlands	5.50%	Discount
Sweden	5.50%	Discount
Switzerland	5.50%	Discount
US	5.50%	Discount

Money Market Rates

Country	Rate	Term
UK	5.50%	Discount
France	5.50%	Discount
Germany	5.50%	Discount
Italy	5.50%	Discount
Japan	5.50%	Discount
Netherlands	5.50%	Discount
Sweden	5.50%	Discount
Switzerland	5.50%	Discount
US	5.50%	Discount

Life Financial Futures

Contract	Settlement	High	Low	Est. vol	Open interest
Long Call	Dec-97	10.50	10.40	10.45	10.45
Long Put	Dec-97	10.50	10.40	10.45	10.45
Short Call	Dec-97	10.50	10.40	10.45	10.45
Short Put	Dec-97	10.50	10.40	10.45	10.45

Life FTSE 100 Index Options

Series	Call	Put	Vol	Imp	Vol	Imp
1000	10.50	10.40	10.45	10.45	10.45	10.45
2000	10.50	10.40	10.45	10.45	10.45	10.45
3000	10.50	10.40	10.45	10.45	10.45	10.45
4000	10.50	10.40	10.45	10.45	10.45	10.45

Commodity Indices

Index	Value	Change
Oil	20.50	+0.10
Gold	380.00	+0.50
Silver	10.00	+0.05
Copper	1.50	+0.02

Industrial Metals

Commodity	Value	Change
Aluminum	1.50	+0.02
Copper	1.50	+0.02
Lead	1.50	+0.02
Nickel	1.50	+0.02
Zinc	1.50	+0.02

Precious Metals

Commodity	Value	Change
Gold	380.00	+0.50
Silver	10.00	+0.05
Palladium	1.50	+0.02
Platinum	1.50	+0.02

Agricultural

Commodity	Value	Change
Wheat	1.50	+0.02
Corn	1.50	+0.02
Soybeans	1.50	+0.02
Cotton	1.50	+0.02

Other Softs

Commodity	Value	Change
Orange Juice	1.50	+0.02
Sugar	1.50	+0.02
Cocoa	1.50	+0.02
Latex	1.50	+0.02

Latest Unit Trust Prices

Largest Unit Trust Prices				Largest Unit Trust Prices			
Fund	Price	Change	Ytd	Fund	Price	Change	Ytd
ABF Growth Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Barclays Growth Investors' Funds	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Income Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		BOI, 14231 London, E15 4UG			
ABF Property Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Unit Trusts, 728 242			
ABF World Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Income Funds	1.50	+0.02	
ABF US Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Asia Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Australia Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF New Zealand Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF South Africa Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Middle East Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Africa Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Asia Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Australia Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & New Zealand Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & South Africa Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Middle East Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Africa Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Asia Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Australia Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & New Zealand Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & South Africa Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Middle East Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Africa Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Asia Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Australia Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & New Zealand Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & South Africa Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Middle East Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Africa Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Asia Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Australia Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & New Zealand Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & South Africa Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Middle East Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Africa Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Asia Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Australia Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & New Zealand Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & South Africa Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Middle East Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Africa Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Asia Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Australia Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & New Zealand Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & South Africa Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Middle East Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Africa Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Asia Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Australia Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & New Zealand Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & South Africa Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Middle East Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Africa Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Asia Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Australia Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & New Zealand Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & South Africa Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Middle East Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Africa Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Asia Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Australia Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & New Zealand Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & South Africa Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Middle East Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Africa Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Asia Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Australia Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & New Zealand Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & South Africa Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Middle East Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Africa Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Asia Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Australia Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & New Zealand Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & South Africa Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Middle East Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Africa Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Asia Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Australia Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & New Zealand Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & South Africa Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Middle East Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Africa Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Asia Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Australia Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & New Zealand Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & South Africa Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Middle East Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Africa Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Asia Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Australia Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & New Zealand Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & South Africa Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Middle East Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Africa Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Asia Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Australia Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & New Zealand Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & South Africa Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Middle East Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Africa Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Asia Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Australia Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & New Zealand Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & South Africa Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Middle East Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Africa Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Asia Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Australia Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & New Zealand Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & South Africa Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Middle East Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Africa Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Asia Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Australia Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & New Zealand Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & South Africa Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Middle East Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Africa Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	
ABF Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Europe & Asia Trust Ltd	1.50	+0.02		Equity Income	1.50	+0.02	

David and Nadia Rice take to the water at Los Gigantes, Tenerife, on Sunday for what represents the greatest challenge of their lives, the first rowing race across the Atlantic. Mike Rawbottom hears why they want to take the risk.



A high-contrast, black and white photograph of a sailboat on a wooden dock. The sail is partially visible, featuring the text "SPOON WANTED" and "SPOON". The image is heavily stylized with high contrast, making the details appear stark and graphic. The dock is made of wooden planks, and the background shows a building with windows.

The Rices (below and top left) have been training for 18 months to row their specially constructed boat (above) across the Atlantic. Main photograph: Robert Hallam

The Rices entrusted their craft to a boatbuilding friend who constructed it for £10,000. It has been the cost, rather than any consideration of personal risk, which has come closest to putting them off their project.

He is well acquainted with the type of challenge posed by the race – a former Royal Marine, he runs an adventure training centre in Wales and has

When pressed, however, he concedes that there are three main perils: "Falling over the side in rough weather, being run down by ships or being overwhelmed by a severe storm." No worries there, then.

"We will be rowing, navigating, eating, sleeping and rowing again. We won't have much time to reflect on anything unless the weather is nar-

The Rices have come up with an idea of revolutionary simplicity to ensure their trip goes smoothly — a “niceness contract”.

The question David has been asked most in recent weeks is: Why are you doing it? "I think," he says, "that the answer lies in a common human affliction - the need to explore. Once the start line is crossed, we are entering unknown territory."



HALL OF FAME

Who is today's greatest?

is select your choice of up to four players. If you wish you may select only one, but **FOUR** is the maximum. Note down their code numbers and then call 0930 565 986.

First of all, you will be asked to carry out a quick test to determine what type of phone you have. You will then be directed to enter your chosen player codes. At the end of the call, you will be asked to leave your name and address. Your votes will be registered against your name.

VOTE NOW on:
0930 565 986

form on the left and sending it to: The Independent, Future Hall of Fame, PO Box 6927, London E3 3NZ. Postal entries must be received by 8 November.

Please note, you should use the form only if your selections are not listed below. If you have problems voting, call our helpline on 0990 800 283. You cannot register your vote on this line. Vote lines close on 9 November 1997. The Republic of Ireland number is 1550 123 312 (tone phones only).

Call ahead today on 0990 800 283

In the table below, we have listed 200 players who could all be up for contention. All you have to do

If the player or players you wish to vote for are not listed below, you can vote for them by filling in the

The players

[illegible]

CRICKET

Kirsten's fightback follows Pakistan's record day

Henry Blofeld
reports from Rawalpindi
Pakistan 456
South Africa 139-1

South Africa's batsmen fought back with admirable determination after they had watched Pakistan's last pair of Azhar Mahmood and Mushtaq Ahmed take their partnership to 151, which equalled the world record for the last wicket in Test cricket.

Azhar who was 72 overnight went on to make 128 not out in his first Test innings and Mushaqqa reached 59. With Ali Naqvi making 115 on Monday, this became the first time that two batsmen on the same side had made hundreds in their first Test in the same match. All this on a day when the players were presented to the Queen during the tea interval.

Azhar's hundred came when he steered Brian McMillan, whose elbow had recovered, to third man and now Mushtaq, feeling that his main responsibility had ended, tucked into *Symcor* with a vengeance. One

Azhar took 13 in an over from McMillan and there was only five minutes to go until lunch when Mushtaq slogged and edged Hanse Cronje into his stumps. They had equalled

the record for the last wicket of 151 set by Brian Hastings and Richard Collinge for New Zealand against Pakistan in Auckland in 1973.

It was desperately important for South Africa to lay a solid foundation to their innings and Gary Kirsten and Adam Bachar did just that. They saw off Waqar Younis and Azhar who on this extremely slow pitch were no great threat. The main problems were always going to be the spin of Mushtaq and Saqlain, but fortunately for the South Africans although the ball spun, the bounce on the third day was more even than had seemed likely.

even though it was against the spin, and to cut Mushtaq, also against the spin, while Bachchan was looking to come on to the front foot to drive and after tea began to use his feet with good effect against Seakain.

They both had their moments, particularly against Mushtaq who was unlucky, but they got away with it. Waqar had two overs immediately after tea to see if he could do anything with his reverse swing, but both batsmen attacked him successfully and Mushtaq was recalled.

Kirsten reached his 50 just ahead of Bacher who then faced Saqlain and, pushing forward, was caught at silly mid-off from bat and pad. Jacques Kallis then managed to stay with Kirsten until the end of an extraordinary day when South Africa needed 118 more to avoid the follow on.

PAKISTAN - First Innings	
(Overtimes 345 for 8)	
Asher Mahmood not out	128
Mushaq Ahmed b Cronje	59
Extras (12 lb not out)	22
Total	409
Bowling: Donald 33-3-108-3; Cronje 15-4-68-1	
1. Pollock 37-33-74-3; Mollath 17-5-56-3; Symcox 48-31-280-2; Kallis 7-3-15-0; Grainger 75-5-9-1	
SOUTH AFRICA - First Innings	
G Kirsten not out	82
A M Bacher c Ramzan b Stangerin Mushaq 50	
J H Kallis not out	30
Extras (12 lb not out)	7
Total (not out)	139
Fall of wickets: 1-107	
To bat: D J Cullinan, *W J Cronje, B M L Smith, S M Pollock, D J Richardson, P L Symcox	

Howey's last throw at her own weight

After 10 years at the top in international judo, Kate Howey still offers Britain's best hope of a medal at the World Championships, which begin in Paris today. Phil Nicksan assesses her chances

There is some truth in this brutal international realism. For although Kate Howey only managed a bronze in the European Championships in May, she does have the ability to beat anyone in her category. She has even arm-locked the fearsome Korean world and Olympic champion, Min-Sung Cho.

Nevertheless she is optimistic: "I feel in top form back at this weight now," she said.

She also knows there is another reason why she must not let this opportunity slip through her fingers.

In the official programme for the four-day world championships in Paris, which start today, Kate Howey is the only British fighter to be accorded an extended interview - which indicates the international view of Britain's chances at this event.

Even though Howey is only 24, she knows she is coming to the end of her chances to take the world title that just eluded her in 1993. Since then, she has come down a weight category, to the middleweight she was when, at the age of 15, she first fought for her country at senior level.

And there is the rub. For while 24 is not very old for judo, Howey has been fighting at the very top for over a decade, which

For yesterday, the International Judo Federation agreed on some major changes for the sport which will be introduced by the World Championships in Birmingham in 1999. Most significantly, from the fighters' point of view, is the change in weight categories which will see an increase at most levels.

Howey's middleweight, for example, goes from 66 kilos to 70kg, a small change but one that could affect Howey's chances in the future as 66kg seems to be her optimum weight.

British team,

**British team,
Digest, page 31**

Britain given boost by clubs' failure

The impression seems to be that this recovering jockey will manage most admirably. They say that National Hunt jockeys are tough men, made out of the same sort of material they employ for the hulls of icebreakers. Jonathan Lower does not let down the reputation.

The Prix Morny winner, Charge D'Affaires, is one of four French acceptors.

3.10 RADIO SHROPSHIRE STAYERS HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS D) £3,750 added

OUR FATHER (3) P Brown 4 1 4.
 FELLOW (12) M Chapman 8 10 0. W Worthington
 MUST (30) J R Best 7 0 0. D J Churchill 8
 - G declared -

The handicap weights: *Thrice Below* Set 26, *Dogwood* Set 27.

1-2 Name Of Our Father, 11-2 Smiths Town, 10-1
 nominal.

SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE
 G 6) \$2,400 added 2m 5f 110yds
 (10) W Bell 8 1 8. J Johnson 11
 (11) S Sermon 10 3 (C) M J Jones 10 9 7. J Jenkins
 10 9 7. P Eades 8 1 8
 (12) D Churchill 6 11 2. D J Maguire
 10 9 7. A Bayliss

2 Edward Seymour, 4-1 Daughin Bleu, 5-1 Bright
 na, 8-1 White Willow, 12-1 Royal Hand.
INHAM ENGLISH WINES NOVICE
(CLASS E) £4,100 added 3m
SCHE CREEK (7) M Pipe 7 11 5. A P McCoy B

GNORTH NOVICE HURDLE
SS E) £3,000 added 2m
THE YARD (12) M Chiscom 4 10 13. W Worthington

(FS94) LV Dams 5 10 12 S Melrose (7)
 MEN (18) M Sweeney 5 10 12 D Penick
 ONE (6) P Eccles 5 10 12 A Maguire
 MILL (27) J M Bradley 8 10 12 R Johnson
 LAINS (10) K Burke 4 10 11 Doubtful
 TANNING (52) F Jordan 4 10 6 R Faenert
 - 8 declared -
 11-4 Down The Yard, Noble Tern, 8-1 Junior Ben,

ALLEN (18) Mrs L Richards 6 T 1 6.....M Richards B
SURPRISE (10) (10) R Baker 7 T 1 0.....V Stalley E
ESTREAK (20) R Hodges 6 T 1 0 T Descombe (5)
SHADOW (12) D Hyde 10 T 1 0.....Mr J Tizzard (5)
UR (12) P Charrings 5 10 12.....A Thornton B
- 8 declared -
agreement, 3-1 Primitive Streak, 7-2 Bowden Sur-
Call Me Albi, 33-1 Roaming Shadow.

& DYBALL HANDICAP HURDLE
SS D) £4,000 added 2m 1f 110yds
WEEK (F14) (D) M Madgwick 8 11 10 . M A Fitzgerald
WINS THE RULES (F12) (BF) R Bucker 5 10 5 .
W Pownall
M (180) (D) B R Mairson 5 10 3 . D Sailer (5)
DER (108) (D) G Edwards 10 10 0 . M S Duncanson (7) B
CASTLE (77) (D) R Frost 10 10 0 . T O'Connor (7)
RAGE (190) (D) M Coombe 12 10 0 .

SILVER (11) (D) H Manners 7 10 0 ...A Dowling (7)
- 7 declared -
True handicap weights: The Minder 9st 13lb, Blenheim 8st 17lb, Touch Silver 8st 10lb.
As the Rules, 5-2 Handicap, 6-1 The Minder, 7-1
stle, 10-1 Touch Silver, 12-1 Glen Mirage.

& DYBALL NOVICE HANDICAP
(CLASS E) £5,000 added 2m 1f

PERFECTED (70) R Frost 8 11 10.....J Frost
 TEMPLE (7) K Bishop 8 11 9 (7ed).....G Supple (5)
 FURBER (387) D H Dodges 7 11 4 7 Diacomb (3)
 STERN (28) R Almer 10 11 0.....A Thornton
 (7) R Buidar 5 10 11.....B Powell
 BOY (75) P Ratchers 8 10 2.....C Maude
 - 8 declared -
 Sample, 5-1 Mature Perfected, 7-1 Take A Flyer, 10-
 ward, 20-1 Bargain Boy.

& DYBALL NOVICE HANDICAP
PLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 2m
hyds

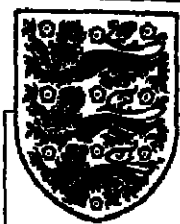
17) Mrs M Jones 7 11 10	D Byrne
POINT (10) (CD) R Frost 6 11 7 (7ad)	J Frost
'S QUEST (138) T Foster 4 11 5	S Wynne
ROCK WANDERER (78) P Bowden 5 10 12	M A Fitzgerald

3.20: 1. RANGITIKEI (R Dunwoody) 1-

3.20: 1. RANGE
for 2. Glimme 7-13

CSF: 5435. NE Chesapeake.
 4:50: 1. KARENS TYPHOON (A P Mc Coy) 7-2; Split Level 11-4; 3. William One-2-1; 5am 17-3. (T McGovern). Tot: 04:20. E170. E220. DI: E730. CSF: E1266.
 4:50: 1. SOLD GENT (S McNell) 2-1-1; 2. Count Barabchole 7-1; 3. Keep It Zipped 9-4 5am. 11 nk (A Jones). Tot: E232; E165. E250. DI: E240. CSF: E1344.
 4:50: 1. SCRIPT (A McGuire) 10-1; 1. Squire's Celebration 12-1; 3. A S Jim 3-1-1; 9am 3-3, 1/4 (J Jenter). Tot: E140; E18. E330. E210. DI: E740. CSF: E7483. The act: E57750. Time: C200.90.
 Placepot: E77080. Placepot: E2890.
 Place 6: E70187. Place 6: E7846.

Virgin Direct Personal Financial Service Ltd is regulated by the Personal Investment Authority. For your security, all calls to Virgin Direct will be recorded and randomly monitored. *Male non-smoker, age 35 next birthday, 10 year period of cover, costs from £6.78.



England under Hoddle: the men who have worn the three lions

Opponents	Date	Venue	Result	Captain	Formation	SEAMAN	WALKER	JAMES	FLOWERS	MARTYN	G NEVILLE	P NEVILLE	CAMPBELL	SOUTHGATE	ADAMS	PALLISTER	KEOWN	PEARCE	HINCHCLIFFE	LE SAUX	BATTY	INCE	REDKNAPP	BECKHAM	LEE	GASCOIGNE	BUTT	McNAMAN	COLLYMORE	RIPLEY	SHEARER	FERDINAND	BARMY	SHERINGHAM	FOWLER	LE TISSIER	WRIGHT	MERSON	SCHOLES	COLE		
Moldova	1 Sept 96	Chisinau	W 3-0	Shearer	3-5-2	G																				M (80)																
Poland	9 Oct 96	Wembley	W 2-1	Shearer	3-5-2																						M	M														
Georgia	9 Nov 96	Tbilisi	W 2-0	Adams	3-5-2	G																					M															
Italy	12 Feb 97	Wembley	L 0-1	Shearer	3-4-2-1	G																		*																		
Mexico	29 Mar 97	Wembley	W 2-0	Ince	3-4-2-1							*																														
Georgia	30 Apr 97	Wembley	W 2-0	Shearer	3-5-2	G																																				
South Africa	24 May 97	Old Trafford	W 2-1	Pearce	3-5-2																																					
Poland	31 May 97	Katowice	W 2-0	Shearer	3-5-2	G																																				
Italy	3 Jun 97	Nantes	W 2-0	Ince	3-4-2-1																																					
France	7 Jun 97	Montpellier	W 1-0	Shearer	3-5-2	G																																				
Brazil	10 Jun 97	Paris	L 0-1	Shearer	3-5-2	G																																				
Moldova	10 Sept 97	Wembley	W 4-0	Seaman	4-3-1-2	G																																				
Italy	11 Oct 97	Rome																																								

Played

CF (78)

sub 19

Position / substituted (mins)

Appeared as a sub (mins)

In squad but did not play

* Added to squad after injury

Inj Player injured

POSITIONS:

G goalkeeper
RB right-back
LB left back
CB centre back
RM right midfield
LH left midfield

RWB right wing-back
LWB left wing-back
M central midfield
CF withdrawn striker
IF forward striker

SCORERS

Moldova
Poland
Georgia
Mexico
Georgia
S Africa
Poland

Barmby, Gascoigne, Shearer
Shearer 2
Ferdinand, Sheringham
Sheringham (pen), Fowler
Shearer, Sheringham
Lee, Wright
Shearer, Sheringham

Italy
France
Moldova

Wright, Scholes
Shearer
Wright 2, Scholes, Gascoigne

New caps awarded by Hoddle:
Moldova: Hinchcliffe, Beckham
Mexico: James, Butt
S Africa: Scholes

13 other players have been called up by Hoddle but have not played:
Stone, Draper, Howey, Anderson, Part, Metcal, May, Bowyer, Scales, Eadie, Clark, Heskey and Rio Ferdinand.

Statistics compiled by Glenn Moore

KEY

Played
CF (78) Position / substituted (mins)
sub 19 Appeared as a sub (mins)

In squad but did not play
* Added to squad after injury
inj Player injured

POSITIONS:

G goalkeeper
RB right-back
LB left-back
CB centre-back
RM right-midfield
LM left-midfield

RWB right wing-back
LWB left wing-back
IF withdrawn striker
CF forward striker

SCORERS

Moldova: Shearer 2
Georgia: Ferdinand, Sheringham
Mexico: Shearer, Sheringham
Georgia: Lee, Wright
S Africa: Scholes
Poland: Shearer, Sheringham

Italy: Wright, Scholes
France: Shearer
Moldova: Wright 2, Scholes, Gascoigne

New caps awarded by Hoddle:
Moldova: Hinchcliffe, Beckham
Mexico: James, Butt
S Africa: Scholes

13 other players have been called up by Hoddle but have not played:
Stones, Draper, Howey, Anderson, Platt, Matteo, May, Gossy, Scates, Eddie, Clark, Heskey and Rio Ferdinand.

Statistics compiled by Glenn Moore

Long-term goals force moulding of a new England

Faces come and go, but the nucleus of Glenn Hoddle's squad remains constant. Glenn Moore considers how the England side of today has developed, aided by the modernising policies of Terry Venables. Hoddle's predecessor as national coach.

Many have been called but only a few have been regularly chosen. There have been a cluster of new faces and a sprinkling of older ones, but in general, Glenn Hoddle's Eng-

land teams have continued the modernising progress begun by Terry Venables.

Hoddle's team to play Italy on Saturday will be his 13th. Venables, playing friendlies exclusively, had capped 39 players by that stage. Hoddle, playing mainly World Cup qualifiers, will have capped 35 and called a staggering 48 into his squads. That he has won six of the seven matches that mattered prior to Saturday is quite an achievement.

In this he has been helped by Venables' policy of introducing promising young players, a trend continued by his successor. Of Hoddle's 35 picks only five (Manchester United youngsters David Beckham,

Nicky Butt and Paul Scholes, Liverpool's David James and late developer Andy Hinchcliffe) are new caps.

Venables, at the same stage, had chosen 19 new faces which was an indication of how radical a change his football philosophy was from Graham Taylor.

Hoddle has chosen three players Taylor capped and Venables ignored, Nigel Martyn, Martin Keown and Stuart Ripley, but has generally relied upon the same core - David Seaman, Gary Neville, Gareth Southgate (who has appeared in 11 of Hoddle's matches, more than any other), Paul Ince, Paul Gascoigne, Alan Shearer and Teddy Sheringham.

Darren Anderson and Tony Adams would have featured more if fit. Of Venables' other key players, David Platt was quickly forgotten, Steve McNamman left on the periphery, Graeme Le Saux recalled when back to fitness and Stuart Pearce persuaded out of retirement.

Yet, despite the familiar faces, this is recognisably Hoddle's team. He will be grateful to Venables for bleeding Sol Campbell, but he had only played 29 minutes, while Ian Wright, David Batty and Rob Lee had been discarded, Hinchcliffe never considered and Beckham and Scholes were not then ready. In addition, Matt Le Tissier, rejected by Venables,

would have been consistently involved under Hoddle had it not been for injury.

The team's playing style has also evolved. Hoddle, having begun with a rigid 3-5-2 based on the German model has, like Venables, introduced greater flexibility while concentrating on having numbers in midfield.

But while Venables, building towards a European Championship on home soil, sought to create a side with the emphasis on possession and attacking width, Hoddle has had different aims. With a World Cup in France as the long-term goal, he has moulded a side which is at its best when counter-attacking.

As a player, Hoddle was not only a purist's delight but also an outstanding exponent of the early long ball - not the "hoof" but the ball played to a runner. Beckham, Sheringham and Scholes are all fine long passers and Wright's rejuvenation has provided an outlet first offered through Shearer's mobility. As England proved in Georgia, Poland, and at Le Tournoi, international defences can be vulnerable to the long pass if it is played accurately behind a defence which has been drawn forward.

With the onus on Italy to attack, this could be an ideal tactic on Saturday and the Italians know and fear it. They will not want to be drawn forward, but

the longer the game goes without a home goal, the more they will have to. Thus it is of paramount importance that England do not go behind early on. If they do, and are forced to make the running, they will be vulnerable, as was shown at Wembley against Italy and, especially, Poland.

Defeat, and Hoddle must think of the play-offs, while a draw would allow him to continue developing his side with a series of friendlies. The big question is whether he would think there is enough time to adopt the sweeper system he favours.

Jamie Redknapp, who would have been tried out in Le Tournoi had he not been in-

jured, is back playing for Liverpool's reserves this week, but time is relatively short.

First England have to get there and Redknapp is one of eight players, including Anderson, unavailable through injury - in a week when Hoddle feels he has been lucky with injuries. It is a further indication of the difficulty of building an international team.

So is the identity of Hoddle's first goalscorer, Nick Barmby, in Moldova. He played well then but his poor club form, out of range of Hoddle's influence, means he has not played since. If that sunny afternoon in Chisinau seems a long time ago to Hoddle, it is another era to Barmby.

Tardelli has the expertise in stress rapture

One person in particular will understand the pressures on the Italian and English players when they face each other in the Stadio Olimpico.

Marco Tardelli won a World Cup winners medal with Italy, and will be actively involved again in Saturday's game as the No 2 to the Italian coach Cesare Maldini. He talked to Jane Nottogge.

For football fans around the world Marco Tardelli's passionate celebration of the spectacular second goal of the final against West Germany was one of the definitive images of the 1982 World Cup finals.

Yet little more than a fortnight earlier the Italians had been widely castigated by their

own press and supporters. Tardelli, we can assume, knows all about pressure.

"In 1982 everyone said we were finished," he said. "We had enormous pressure on us, but that made us close ranks and unite. We were more together as a team than ever before. This kind of mental strength comes from within and it is this strength that we need to win on Saturday. I think in the end the team that wins will be the one with the right mental attitude as well as talent."

As far as talent is concerned, Tardelli is impressed by many of England's young players. "One of the best England players is Paul Scholes. He was on excellent form during the Tournoi in France last summer, and since then he has come into his own. He's dangerous because you don't see him but he inflicts the most damage. You think everything is under control when suddenly there he is threatening to score, and you

think: 'Where the hell did he come from?'

"David Beckham is another class player, although he has yet to score for England. But the man I fear most is Glenn Hoddle. He was a classy, elegant player with great vision and passing ability, and he has incorporated that in the team. He's changed the old 4-4-2 to bring five players in defence, and that combines the old style with the new. I also think both [Tony] Adams and [David] Seaman will be the cornerstones of England's defence."

In recent weeks Tardelli has made several visits to Britain, taking in the games between Wimbledon and Crystal Palace, Chelsea and Arsenal, Manchester United and Chelsea, and Manchester United and Juventus. All provided opportunities for Tardelli to help Maldini. The two formed their partnership when they looked after the Italian under-21 side, and continued with it when

Maldini was made coach of the national team last December.

Still the playing memories linger. "You know, when I walk into the Olympic Stadium on Saturday I will ask myself the same question that I always ask: 'Could I still play?' He pauses before smiling: "And the answer is always no. At first it was difficult to make the transition from player to manager, but now I feel my new role is as stimulating as playing."

Things have changed since Tardelli's day, not least on the financial front. Does he think the huge pay packets have produced less hungry players? "Definitely. When you earn £100,000 a year you are still hungry for more, but when you are on a contract worth several million pounds I think it takes away the edge."

Not that this will be a problem on Saturday. "When you have a place in the World Cup finals at stake you don't need pushing."

Goram out for Scotland

Goalkeeper Andy Goram has been ruled out of Scotland's World Cup qualifier against Latvia on Saturday with a knee injury.

St Johnstone's Alan Main has been called up as understudy to Jim Leighton. Billy McKay (ankle), and Ally McCoist (hamstring) are also doubtful.

Keith Gillespie is one of three players to withdraw from Northern Ireland's squad for their qualifier in Portugal. The Newcastle winger has a groin injury. Wigan's Pat McGibbon (knee) and Chester's Iain Jenkins (ankle) have also dropped out.

The Motherwell striker Tommy Coyne and Tranmere midfielder Liam O'Brien have been recalled to the Republic of Ireland squad to play Romania.

Sacked Molby's parting shot

Jan Molby yesterday found himself out of work for the first time since he arrived in England 13 years ago after being sacked as the manager of Swansea City.

The 34-year-old Molby, whose deft touches in the Liverpool and Danish midfield defined an ample frame, was shown the door, ostensibly for Swansea being fifth from bottom in the Third Division.

That was not how he saw it, however. "I get the feeling they want a man they can manipulate, who will do as he is told," said Molby, who guided Swansea to the play-off final last season 15 months after being given his first managerial post by the former Swansea chairman, Doug Sharpe. "I was not even asked to resign. I was sacked straight away," Molby said after being dismissed, together with his assistant Billy Ayre, by the new owner, Neil McClure. "It is true that the results had been poor. But I think there was more to it than that."

"I do not think they wanted me here from the start. I was not their choice and they made it as difficult as possible for me by refusing to let me bring in new players. I think the results have given them the perfect opportunity to get rid of me."

Although Alan Curtis, the youth team manager and former Swansea striker, has the task of lifting morale before Saturday's trip to third-placed Exeter, the former Fulham manager Micky Adams is the favourite to slip into Molby's seat.

First Division Portsmouth and Third Division leaders Peterborough have both been fined £12,500 - with £10,000 suspended until June 1998 - by the Football Association following a Coca-Cola Cup rumour. The clubs pleaded guilty to failing to control their players, after a brawl during the first-round tie at Fratton Park on 26 August.

The FA also took a dislike to Paolo Di Canio, Sheffield Wednesday's £4.5m record

signing, baring his bottom after scoring against Wimbledon and the Italian striker is to appear before a disciplinary panel charged with misconduct.

Jeff Kenna has agreed a new three-year contract which will keep him at Blackburn Rovers until after the millennium. The 27-year-old defender was signed from Southampton for £1.5m two seasons ago.

Barry Horne looks set to become Peter Jackson and Terry Yorath's first signing at Huddersfield. Birmingham, who have bought the midfielder Chris Marsden from Stockport for £500,000, are prepared to let the 35-year-old Horne go on a free transfer.

Wembley will close in the summer of 1999 for a facelift that will leave only the twin towers standing. The project got the final go-ahead yesterday with the release of £20m in funding from the Sports Council. The stadium will reopen in 2002.

- Nick Dudd

Italy won at Wembley through a resolute act of will and technical superiority

Tension can stunt a footballer, but evidence argues powerfully that experienced internationals are fully grown. To make the level at all, they first survive other tests of their skill and endurance. As they rise, pressure rises with them.

Pressure plays on them, but, in the imprecision of human behaviour, one can never anticipate how Bobby Moore performed at his best when most was at issue. "The best defender I've ever played against," Pele said of him. Moore's attention often diffused over a long club season. Important games refocused it.

Manchester United's defeat of Juventus last week in the Champions' League resulted, in the main, from the sustained intensity of

their teamwork. Much less was required to easily overcome Crystal Palace in a Premier League game at Old Trafford three days later. "You couldn't help feeling that some of the United players were bored," a Palace supporter said.

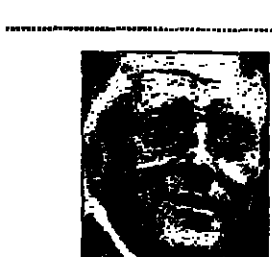
Put the fact of interrupted rhythm to coaches and they nod, curiously restrained. "I couldn't believe it," one recently said when referring to the sudden, mystifying collapse of a star player's form. "Our best man one week, our worst the next. It can happen."

As Glenn Hoddle has grown to know, international football is a world apart, with its own set of imponderables. No matter how close the England coach's scrutiny, he

cannot be sure that the men chosen to start against Italy on Saturday will be at their best mentally. A player can look great in rehearsals, but on the night he gives a poor performance.

The most successful of Hoddle's predecessors, Alf Ramsey, used to explain his position this way: "It's mostly about selection, not asking players to perform tasks that make them uncomfortable." Ramsey's great rival, Helmut Schön of West Germany, said: "You don't cling to outstanding players, they cling to you because of their intelligence and willingness to work for the team."

Hoddle was understandably encouraged by England's successful effort in the Tournoi de France, but



KEN JONES

a view held here is that too much was read into a victory over Italy that figures prominently in assessments of this week's proceedings.

A traditional feature of England's national team is to play flat out whatever the circumstances,

their commitment as complete in friendly matches as World Cup ties. An impression gained from watching last summer's encounter on television was that England took it more seriously than their opponents.

In their dogged refusal to accept this, some pundits are as perilously placed as horse players blind to evidence of deliberate idleness in running.

Does the recent history of English football tell us anything more important than that Italy, through a resolute act of will and technical superiority, held their ground to win at Wembley? I don't think so.

Even with such notables as Franz Beckenbauer and Günther

Netzer in the team, West Germany gave themselves little chance of holding England at Wembley when attempting to qualify for the 1972 European Championship finals. "Even though we'd defeated them in the 1970 World Cup everything seemed against us," Beckenbauer said. "We were nervous in the dressing-room because England had many fine players and appeared very confident, but the breaks went our way and we surprised a lot of people including many of our supporters by winning 3-1."

No great significance should be attached to the fact that it is 36 years since England last succeeded on Italian soil, although Hoddle will

welcome a repeat of the good fortune evident in reports of the 3-2 victory on 24 May 1961.

Doubtless people find it encouraging when somebody in Hoddle's position speaks about sending a team out to play positively but a pretty safe bet is that England, with the advantage of two options, will sensibly seek to establish a balance.

And while it is important today for a football coach to be well schooled in strategy and tactics, nothing matters more than individual ability. There has been enough evidence lately to suggest that English football has made technical advances. Enough to achieve victory in Rome? I doubt it.

Woosnam sours Ryder success by criticising Ballesteros

The euphoria which surrounded European golfer's thrilling Ryder Cup triumph was somewhat punctured yesterday when Ian Woosnam broke ranks to reveal that he had not enjoyed the tournament and launched a scathing attack on Seve Ballesteros's style of captaincy. Andy Farrell reports from Wentworth.

Victory apart, Ian Woosnam did not exactly enjoy his eighth Ryder Cup. The reason, he firmly believes, was Seve Ballesteros's style of captaincy, as he revealed in no uncertain terms yesterday when he became the first team member to sour the success with critical comments. Clearly from the school that believes that if you don't like the way something is done, do it yourself, Woosnam has thrown his hat in the ring to take over from the Spaniard as captain for the next match in 1999.

Ballesteros did not overuse Woosnam at Valderrama, but the Welshman does not know why. The 39-year-old has the best fourball record in the history of the event, with 10 wins in 14 outings, but he played only once, winning with Thomas Bjorn, before the singles, where he collapsed to Fred Couples 8 and 7.

Woosnam, who today faces Jesper Parnevik in the first round of the World Match Play Championship here, is still far from a state of grumpiness. Bristling, more like it. "I have been part of the Ryder Cup team many times and I didn't particularly enjoy it this time," he said. "I was on a high after we won and I felt very pleased for the lads who had not played before. But I had been there before. It was just another one for me. Just a memory."

"I would just like to have had a reason why I didn't play more. Seve did not talk to me about it, not even on the Sunday night. If he had said to me I am not playing well, or asked what my feelings were I would have felt a bit happier about it." Not being told he was not playing was what upset Woosnam most. "It wasn't just me," he said. "Everybody was in the same boat. Seve had his own way of doing it."

When Ballesteros had said his players could find out on television who was playing, it was not a joke, apparently. "That was right. At the end of the day it worked, yeah," Woosnam sighed. "If I was captain, I would be more in touch with my players. I would be wanting to feel how they were feeling. Give them the opportunity if they weren't playing well to say, 'I am not playing that well'. In all the Ryder Cups I played before, there has been communication. I just didn't feel there was any this time."

A decision on who takes over from Ballesteros, who stated immediately after the match at Valderrama that he wanted to return to the ranks, may be deferred until the qualifying for the 1999 match starts next September. "I will have to see how I go, but I would love to be captain," Woosnam said. "It would be something great to do."

Ballesteros, who is playing with Jose Maria Olazabal in the Open Novotel Petrie Four-ball in Bordeaux this week, did not agree with Woosnam. He said: "I think I was a good captain. I talked to the players a lot and asked them their opinions, though I always had the final decision. I did what I thought was best for the team. I gave them 100 per cent."

FOOTBALL

Eternal optimists arrive in Eternal City

The England players have arrived in Rome full of confidence for Saturday's crucial World Cup qualifier against Italy. However, Ian Ridley finds some old hands are cautioning against complacency.

"Great player, but I don't fear anyone." The experienced England watcher always bristles at such a statement to fortune stuff, which recalls the opening titles of *Dad's Army* and that triangular Union Flag snapping defiantly at the Continent before withdrawing. From the comfort of one's own country, crowing does come easy. Once there, the size of the task suddenly becomes apparent.

It has been left to some of the older heads to counsel against confidence turning to complacency. Paul Ince, veteran of two seasons with Internazionale, has already spoken this week of how dangerous the wounded Italians will be now that they need victory to go through automatically. The England goalkeeping coach, Ray Clemence, believes that silencing the crowd will be the important initial task.

"The Italians will believe they can win this game, but because they are a very proud nation, if it doesn't go right for them, the crowd can turn on the players quite quickly," said Clemence, who returned to Rome to win the European Cup with Liverpool in 1977 having lost 2-0 with England the previous year in an equally epic encounter.

"If you can turn the crowd on their own team, you are heading in the right direction to get a result. The atmosphere will be electric and it will be about players who have played big games for their clubs and know how to handle the situation," Clemence said.

Temperament will thus be important, and Beckham believes his will stand the test, having re-examined himself after his suspension from the summer game against Brazil and having spoken to his club manager after the recent United game against West Ham when, for a while, it was clear that taunts about Beckham's girlfriend, Spice Girl Victoria Adams, had upset him.

"The manager has spoken to me about playing my game and the opponents, not the fans but I don't think there is a problem there really. It's going to be really hyped up on Saturday and hard to control your reaction but it's England here, not a Sunday league team so I have got to control myself," he said.

Hodde clearly believes he will and believes, indeed, that Beckham and his young United team-mates are more than capable of meeting the challenge. "The United players are certainly in advance of their years as footballers, that's for sure," he said.

England have sometimes arrived in Italy in the past on a wing and a prayer. Last night they landed in Rome with wing-backs and a certainty in their ability to secure at least the draw they need to reach next summer's finals from Saturday's crucial World Cup qualifying match at the Olympic Stadium.

The theme of the week so far seems to have been how confident English players are now, given the showing of Euro '96, the gradual improvement during their Group Two qualifying matches and recent results in European club competition, notably Manchester United's victory over Italian champions Juventus last week. Eternal optimism for the Eternal City.

There does seem a brashness and absence of fear within the England squad, notably among the younger players. David Beckham, one of United's stars, went even further, believing that expectations of victory are not far-fetched. "We are not scared," he insisted. "At United, Alex Ferguson breeds us to win."

"I think there is a new feeling, not just in the players but through the country with the fans who have been watching us for the past couple of years," he added. And the prospect of playing as right wing-back and confronting Paolo Maldini?

He preferred, too, to cast out the past mistakes of England in Italy, or indeed in not qualifying for previous World Cup finals. This year and next will be pivotal years for the English game, the Football Association's new technical director, Howard Wilkinson, said last week and Hodde agrees.

"This game is all about the future," he said, although he shrugged off questions about it being a turning point in English football's development. That, he said, has been a gradual process. "If we change the structure and concentrate on the youngsters, I can see us getting better tactically and technically," he added.

"The long-ball game had some success because of the rigid 4-4-2 system. That's what was so bad about that football. I always thought that if ever I was a coach I would do it differently. In the last five years since we have changed the shape of the pitch, as I term it, with sometimes three at the back and sometimes one up front, we have been catching up with Italy, Spain and France. It was only mentally that you had to break down barriers with our players."

"We now have the defenders who can play in a back four or a three and strikers who can drop into midfield. We have more agility on our defensive side. Sol Campbell, for example, has got that mobility and I think we will get better once we change the thinking right through from eight to 15-year-olds. We will see in 10 years' time."

There was a conviction to Hodde's words, which is clearly matched by his players – and it had nothing to do with the Italian photographer seeking compensation from Paul Gascoigne after a court case in Rome and whom England's security presence was seeking to avoid as the squad was last night whisked to its training complex just outside the city, where it will spend the next three days. They had, it seemed, shed the excess baggage of the past.

Italian photographer seeking compensation from Paul Gascoigne after a court case in Rome and whom England's security presence was seeking to avoid as the squad was last night whisked to its training complex just outside the city, where it will spend the next three days. They had, it seemed, shed the excess baggage of the past.

Italian photographer seeking compensation from Paul Gascoigne after a court case in Rome and whom England's security presence was seeking to avoid as the squad was last night whisked to its training complex just outside the city, where it will spend the next three days. They had, it seemed, shed the excess baggage of the past.

Italian photographer seeking compensation from Paul Gascoigne after a court case in Rome and whom England's security presence was seeking to avoid as the squad was last night whisked to its training complex just outside the city, where it will spend the next three days. They had, it seemed, shed the excess baggage of the past.

Italian photographer seeking compensation from Paul Gascoigne after a court case in Rome and whom England's security presence was seeking to avoid as the squad was last night whisked to its training complex just outside the city, where it will spend the next three days. They had, it seemed, shed the excess baggage of the past.

Italian photographer seeking compensation from Paul Gascoigne after a court case in Rome and whom England's security presence was seeking to avoid as the squad was last night whisked to its training complex just outside the city, where it will spend the next three days. They had, it seemed, shed the excess baggage of the past.

Italian photographer seeking compensation from Paul Gascoigne after a court case in Rome and whom England's security presence was seeking to avoid as the squad was last night whisked to its training complex just outside the city, where it will spend the next three days. They had, it seemed, shed the excess baggage of the past.

Italian photographer seeking compensation from Paul Gascoigne after a court case in Rome and whom England's security presence was seeking to avoid as the squad was last night whisked to its training complex just outside the city, where it will spend the next three days. They had, it seemed, shed the excess baggage of the past.

Italian photographer seeking compensation from Paul Gascoigne after a court case in Rome and whom England's security presence was seeking to avoid as the squad was last night whisked to its training complex just outside the city, where it will spend the next three days. They had, it seemed, shed the excess baggage of the past.

Italian photographer seeking compensation from Paul Gascoigne after a court case in Rome and whom England's security presence was seeking to avoid as the squad was last night whisked to its training complex just outside the city, where it will spend the next three days. They had, it seemed, shed the excess baggage of the past.

Italian photographer seeking compensation from Paul Gascoigne after a court case in Rome and whom England's security presence was seeking to avoid as the squad was last night whisked to its training complex just outside the city, where it will spend the next three days. They had, it seemed, shed the excess baggage of the past.

Italian photographer seeking compensation from Paul Gascoigne after a court case in Rome and whom England's security presence was seeking to avoid as the squad was last night whisked to its training complex just outside the city, where it will spend the next three days. They had, it seemed, shed the excess baggage of the past.

Italian photographer seeking compensation from Paul Gascoigne after a court case in Rome and whom England's security presence was seeking to avoid as the squad was last night whisked to its training complex just outside the city, where it will spend the next three days. They had, it seemed, shed the excess baggage of the past.

Italian photographer seeking compensation from Paul Gascoigne after a court case in Rome and whom England's security presence was seeking to avoid as the squad was last night whisked to its training complex just outside the city, where it will spend the next three days. They had, it seemed, shed the excess baggage of the past.

Italian photographer seeking compensation from Paul Gascoigne after a court case in Rome and whom England's security presence was seeking to avoid as the squad was last night whisked to its training complex just outside the city, where it will spend the next three days. They had, it seemed, shed the excess baggage of the past.

Italian photographer seeking compensation from Paul Gascoigne after a court case in Rome and whom England's security presence was seeking to avoid as the squad was last night whisked to its training complex just outside the city, where it will spend the next three days. They had, it seemed, shed the excess baggage of the past.

Italian photographer seeking compensation from Paul Gascoigne after a court case in Rome and whom England's security presence was seeking to avoid as the squad was last night whisked to its training complex just outside the city, where it will spend the next three days. They had, it seemed, shed the excess baggage of the past.

Italian photographer seeking compensation from Paul Gascoigne after a court case in Rome and whom England's security presence was seeking to avoid as the squad was last night whisked to its training complex just outside the city, where it will spend the next three days. They had, it seemed, shed the excess baggage of the past.

Italian photographer seeking compensation from Paul Gascoigne after a court case in Rome and whom England's security presence was seeking to avoid as the squad was last night whisked to its training complex just outside the city, where it will spend the next three days. They had, it seemed, shed the excess baggage of the past.

Italian photographer seeking compensation from Paul Gascoigne after a court case in Rome and whom England's security presence was seeking to avoid as the squad was last night whisked to its training complex just outside the city, where it will spend the next three days. They had, it seemed, shed the excess baggage of the past.

Italian photographer seeking compensation from Paul Gascoigne after a court case in Rome and whom England's security presence was seeking to avoid as the squad was last night whisked to its training complex just outside the city, where it will spend the next three days. They had, it seemed, shed the excess baggage of the past.

Italian photographer seeking compensation from Paul Gascoigne after a court case in Rome and whom England's security presence was seeking to avoid as the squad was last night whisked to its training complex just outside the city, where it will spend the next three days. They had, it seemed, shed the excess baggage of the past.

Italian photographer seeking compensation from Paul Gascoigne after a court case in Rome and whom England's security presence was seeking to avoid as the squad was last night whisked to its training complex just outside the city, where it will spend the next three days. They had, it seemed, shed the excess baggage of the past.

Italian photographer seeking compensation from Paul Gascoigne after a court case in Rome and whom England's security presence was seeking to avoid as the squad was last night whisked to its training complex just outside the city, where it will spend the next three days. They had, it seemed, shed the excess baggage of the past.

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD
No. 3425, Thursday 9 October By Sparrow Wednesday's solution

ACROSS

- Pay for some dental work? You'll never get over it (10)
- Club husband's joined in the city (4)
- Seemingly endless hassle finally leads to rental arrangement (7)
- Tawdry souvenir one mislaid, being somewhat edgy (7)
- Court pursuing underworld in France and Spain to eliminate filth (9)
- Ambition lately associated with the aestival solstice? (5)
- Switzerland always given fear of encouragement? (5)
- So uncle is out to secure some privacy? (9)
- Greek character returning to university in Lombardy, for instance, is shunned (9)
- Suggest merely obliterating the first bit? (5)
- Digital process in which we find hitch? (5)
- One worker's about to take refuge in mission — most peculiar (9)
- Battered neolith suggestive of special means of communication (7)
- Publication is taking legal action (7)
- Pawn each, with king — that's the point (4)
- Terms for US students — those who attempt to pen Middle English stanza? (10)

DOWN

- Runners not members of the batting side (5)
- Fail to demonstrate one's up to the job? (9)
- Small unstable country which needs a hand? (6,8)
- Complaint from one given lines reaching the Head? (7)
- Concerned with heredity, etc. in early stages of embryo growth, possibly (7)
- Terminal One — a delay, initially upsetting (5)
- To entertain American headmaster, dear, is the price of silence (4,5)
- A job getting Ulster politicians to be brothers? (5,9)
- Suit and shirt ruined in palace revolution? (9)
- Vague promise ice will melt, nothing less (9)
- Left with one question on European drink (7)
- Pragmatic attitude is required in the province? (7)
- Insult rather too much for right-wing extremists (5)
- To use chemical weapon is indicative of old habits (5)

Gascoigne 'could be locked up'

Paul Gascoigne could find himself being detained by Italian police as he prepares to face Italy in England's crucial World Cup qualifier, a lawyer in Italy claimed yesterday.

Gascoigne's legal troubles date back to his spell at Lazio and an incident in Rome's city centre on 27 January, 1994, when he assaulted a paparazzi photographer, Lino Nanni.

Gascoigne was convicted in his absence on 17 March this year and given a suspended jail sentence of three months. However, Nanni's lawyer Edmondo Zappacosta told the *Gazzetta dello Sport* that they now want to use Gascoigne's presence in Rome to press

their case for compensation. Questioned over what could be his next move, Zappacosta said: "Asking the judge for the player to be detained as a precautionary measure. My client and I are evaluating the situation, but we don't want to have to resort to making any dramatic entrances, like at the stadium."

"Gascoigne has been notified at every stage of the case, but has always ignored the affair. He hasn't even appointed a lawyer, which has had to be done for him. All we are asking for today is a gesture of goodwill. Because one thing is certain, sooner or later the player will have to pay Nanni damages. There is no escaping Italian justice."

EU attack on pay television

European Union officials have strongly criticised the trend which has seen crucial football matches — such as Saturday's World Cup qualifier between England and Italy — move to pay television stations.

That trend is likely to continue with Fifa, the sport's world governing body, planning to limit guaranteed free and live transmission of 2002 World Cup to just four of the 64 games.

"People should have access free of charge," the European Union Commissioner Karl Van Miert said. "I really cannot imagine that people would only be able to receive such events through pay television." The 15 EU nations are expected to approve proposals that would guarantee EU citizens the right to watch major sporting events live and free on television.

Uefa has split the fixtures for the fifth round of the Champions' League games into two nights. With no Cup-Winners' Cup matches scheduled for Thursday 27 November, half of the 12 Champions' League games scheduled for Wednesday 26 have been put back 24 hours. Newcastle will visit Barcelona on the Wednesday, while Manchester United will entertain Kosice on the Thursday.

Sliding tackle under threat

Fifa has called for players to be banned from launching themselves into tackles, to protect the game's most gifted players.

"We absolutely have to take out aggression, especially in games where a lot is at stake," Sepp Blatter, secretary-general of football's world ruling body, said yesterday, adding that Fifa should "ban all this sliding".

"Players like Ronaldo are being kicked to pieces these days and that is not acceptable."

Blatter said the issue had already been raised with Fifa's International Board and would be fully discussed next March.

He also said Fifa hope to tighten the laws on back-passes so that goalkeepers will not be able to handle passes headed to them in the 1998 World Cup finals in France.

He added that Fifa want to introduce professional referees in league's worldwide, "between now and the year 2000."

● **Ciro Ferrara's condition has improved and the defender is now considered likely to start against England.** Ferrara strained a hamstring in a league match with Juventus on Sunday. **The new England, Ken Jones, page 30**

Zinfandel?
Didn't I back him in the National?

0800 731 1674
ERNEST & JULIO GALLO
CALIFORNIA